THE TIMES

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Anglo-French hint of joint cruise missile

Younger talks spotlight needs of RAF's Tornado

By Michael Evans, Defence Correspondent

Britain took another step yesterday towards joining the French in collaborating over a possible multi-million pound programme to develop an air-launched nuclear cruise missile for the RAF's Tornado strike aircraft.

Mr George Younger, the Secretary of State for Defence, yesterday held his fourth meeting this year with M André Giraud, the French Defence Minister, to discuss a closer military procurement alliance. He admitted that considerable progress had been made in the talks about a joint missile project.

Officials have now been told to carry out further detailed studies to see whether the requirements of both countries are similar and, if so, whether the first-ever collaboration on a nuclear weapon between Britain and France is the answer.

Last week Mrs Thatcher underlined the importance of modernizing Britain's nuclear stockpile. The option of an air-launched cruise missile is being studied to replace the RAF's ageing WE177 free-fall nuclear bombs, which are about 20 years old.

Washington — President Reagan made clear yesterday that the US and its allies would not accept further reductions in Nato nuclear forces until the Soviet Union addressed its superiority in conventional forces in Europe and its advantage in chemical weapons.

In a television interview last week, Mrs Thatcher denied that plans to modernize the nuclear bombs were in any way against the spirit of the recently signed Intermediate Nuclear Forces (INF) Treaty to eliminate all land-based medium-range nuclear missiles. Mr Younger reiterated this yesterday, adding: "We're talking about weapons that are entirely permitted under INF."

After his three-hour discussions with M Giraud, Mr Younger revealed that collaboration of some kind would be necessary for developing an air-launched cruise missile for the late 1990s. But senior Whitehall sources said that the cost would be prohibitive, even with collaboration. There was no question, they said, of Britain going it alone.

The French have already developed a medium-range "stand-off" cruise missile, called ASMP, for their Mirage bombers. It entered service last year and France plans to mass-produce the weapon.

According to sources yesterday, the French are keen to share the financial burden of the project. The original suggestion was for Britain to buy the ASMP off the shelf. But the missile now deployed by the French Air Force is based on 1960s technology and has a limited range of about 125 miles.

The British Government, however, is interested in the possibility of joining the French in developing a future ASMP, with a range of up to 300 miles. If a decision were made, the warhead would be developed independently of the French by British scientists at the Aldermaston Atomic Weapons Research Establishment.

Senior French officials said yesterday that an Anglo-French nuclear missile programme looked "more and more practical".

Mr Younger gave the strongest hint yet of the way he is thinking. "We're very happy that we are making progress with our French friends," he commented. His upbeat reaction took Ministry of Defence officials by surprise because the brief prepared for him had been much more cautious in tone.

However Mr Younger stressed that the choice was still open. "The missile would be required by the end of the century. So it's long term, but I think it's progressing very well."

M Giraud said yesterday: "We have a missile that is already deployed with our forces. But now one has to think of a family of these types of missiles."

British sources said yesterday that any decision on an Anglo-French nuclear missile would have to involve the Americans. "The US would not have power of veto because it would not involve the transfer of American technology," one source said. But the US would have to be "comfortable" about such a programme because of the longstanding nuclear relationship between the US and Britain. "It would be a major change for Britain and France to collaborate on a nuclear weapon," this source added.

The Americans are also looking towards an advanced air-launched cruise missile for their F15E and FB111 bombers, based on "Stealth" anti-radar technology. Sources said yesterday that the Americans and French had discussed the issue.

During yesterday's meeting in London, Mr Younger and M Giraud also resolved to continue efforts to forge closer links on procurement policies. Last September, an Anglo-French conference was held in London to swap notes on potential medium-sized contracts for the Army. Mr Younger said that two further conferences would be held next year on Navy and Air Force equipment.



An angry Mr John Walsh tries to make a point to jeering Yorkshire miners at Riccall colliery, Selby, as nominations for the NUM presidential election closed yesterday. Mr Walsh is challenging Mr Scargill for the top union post. Report, page 2.

Lange fury at move of French agent

From Philip Jacobson, Paris and Richard Long, Wellington

Mr David Lange, the New Zealand Prime Minister, yesterday described the French action in flying one of the two French agents who sabotaged the Greenpeace flagship, Rainbow Warrior, to Paris for medical treatment, as a "blatant and outrageous" breach of the agreement between the two countries.

But M Jacques Chirac, the French Prime Minister, denied any breach of the agreement under which the agents were confined to a Pacific atoll for three years. Its terms allowed for repatriation in the event of illness.

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He said the agent, Major Alain Mafart, aged 35, was "seriously ill", and other French sources described his ailment as severe kidney trouble.

But Mr Lange observed: "In my previous experience, a lot of people in prison do develop stomach pains which liberation relieves very promptly."

Apart from the medical clause quoted by M Chirac, the agreement, drawn up last year by the United Nations Secretary-General, Señor Javier Pérez de Cuéllar, contained another phrase less convenient to the French argument. It said that Major Mafart and his co-saboteur, Mme Dominique Prieur, should remain on the French island of Hao unless there was "mutual consent" by both Governments to move them.

Mr Lange said the French decision to fly Major Mafart to a Paris hospital for treatment for a stomach condition was made despite an offer by New Zealand to fly a doctor urgently to Hoa by military aircraft. This offer was rejected.

Paris replied that it this offer was unacceptable because foreign military aircraft were not permitted to land at the French base on Hao. A subsequent suggestion that a New Zealand doctor should fly to Hao by another means was rejected, a French spokesman added, because the tiMe that would have taken "was incompatible with the medical urgency" of the case.

But Mr Lange pointed out that the French Government had chosen to subject Major Mafart to a far longer journey than would have been necessary if he had been flown to Tahiti or Auckland.

A New Zealand doctor was yesterday examining Major

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Whitelaw collapses at service

By Philip Webster

Lord Whitelaw, the Deputy Prime Minister, aged 69, collapsed last night minutes after reading the lesson at a carol service for MPs. He was taken to Westminster Hospital.

The Prime Minister, who was immediately informed, was said to be very concerned. As Leader of the Lords, Lord Whitelaw is overseeing passage of the Government's heavy legislative programme through the upper house. Any prolonged absence through illness would be a severe blow for the Prime Minister.

Lord Whitelaw, who seemed to be having difficulties in breathing, had just returned to his pew in St Margaret's Church, Westminster, after reading the seventh lesson when his legs appeared to weaken. He was attended by Dr Roger Staughton, consultant dermatologist at Westminster Hospital.

Lord Whitelaw was not taken from his pew until after the service had ended about five minutes later, and most of the congregation did not realize what had happened. He was lifted into a wheelchair and taken to a waiting ambulance.

Poll tax rebels hopeful of victory

By Philip Webster
Chief Political Correspondent

Conservative rebels last night predicted a substantial revolt in Thursday's crucial Commons vote on the community charge, even though a procedural ploy designed to allow a vote on an alternative system seemed likely to fail.

Sir Philip Goodhart, Conservative MP for Beckenham and one of the leading opponents of the existing poll tax plans, forecast that about 50 of his colleagues would abstain on the second reading of the Local Government Finance Bill, which would be one of the most severe rebellions faced by the Government since it came to office.

His warning came as ministers faced pre-Christmas difficulties over both the poll tax and its plans to charge for eye tests and dental check-ups.

Conservative MPs opposed to those charges are meeting this week to draw up their strategy and believe they have a good chance of defeating them in the committee stage. Mr Jerry Hayes, MP for Harlow, has been chosen to serve on the standing committee on the Health and Medicines Bill, and is to table amendments to kill the charges.

The pressure on the Government to think again was

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Nissan and JVC create 1,650 British jobs

By Daniel Ward and Kerry Gill

Japanese companies are to create 1,650 jobs in North-east England and west Scotland.

Nissan announced plans yesterday to invest another £216 million and create 1,000 jobs at its car plant in Sunderland, Tyne and Wear.

A £27 million investment by the Japan Victor Company (JVC) will bring 650 jobs to East Kilbride, Mr Malcolm Rifkind, Secretary of State for Scotland, announced.

Production of a second Nissan model at the north-east plant will start in 1992. Total investment at Sunderland will be more than £600 million, the largest made by any Japanese company in Europe.

In addition to expanding the workforce from 2,500 to 3,500 employees to build the new Micra car, Nissan forecast that two component companies sited close to the main plant will recruit 400 more workers. Within four years, Nissan expects to spend more than £350 million annually in Britain buying components.

"This is very good news for the north-east and the UK", Lord Young of Graffham, Secretary of State for Trade and Industry, said after signing an agreement with Mr Takashi Ishihara, the Nissan chairman. Lord Young said Nissan had created the largest number of jobs in the north-east for many years.

JVC is to set up its first main British manufacturing plant, producing colour television sets and, later, compact disc players and display monitors for computers at a 150,000 sq ft factory in East Kilbride.

Mr Rifkind described the investment as "excellent news for Scotland" and said it would prove a tremendous boost for the economy of East Kilbride and Lanarkshire.

The Government is to give Nissan up to £25 million in regional assistance for the project. About £10 million is being provided under the regional development scheme, and a further £15 million of regional selective assistance, calculated as "the minimum assistance necessary for the project to proceed" will also be granted.

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By comparison, Peugeot received less than £1 million from the Government towards the £20 million investment required to introduce the new 405 model at the company's plant in Coventry.



Mr Rifkind: "Tremendous boost to Scotland".

Mr Ishihara toured the Sunderland plant before yesterday's announcement and was impressed by the motivation and enthusiasm of workers. He said it would be five years before Sunderland made a profit.

Nissan has told the Government it will export 60 per cent of the 100,000 Micras to be produced annually, compared with 40 per cent of the existing Bluebird model.

Local content of the new model will begin at 60 per cent and therefore the Micra will immediately qualify for British status.

Nissan sales are expected to double in Britain to more than 200,000 by 1993.

The number of unemployed in Sunderland has declined to 32,900, 18.6 per cent of the adult population — but the figure is still markedly higher than average unemployment for the whole north-east region — 15.8 per cent.

The JVC investment, partly a result of Mr Rifkind's recent visit to Japan when he met its executives, was won in the face of strong rival bids from locations in Britain and France.

Women will make up about 80 per cent of the workforce at the Scottish plant. Work will begin on the plant next year. JVC said yesterday that it would prefer non-union labour.

IN PART 2

Sales rise

Retail sales rose by more than one percentage point last month while manufacturers' costs fell, according to official figures.....Page 23

Drug abuse

An investigation carried out by *The Times* shows that administrators of British athletics are taking an ambivalent line towards drug abuse in the sport.....Page 38

Portfolio

● There is £8,000 to be won today in The Times Portfolio Gold competition — double the usual amount because there was no winner yesterday.
● Portfolio list, page 29.

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Labour changes tack on Trident

By Martin Fletcher and Tim Jones

A Labour defence spokesman moved his party a step further away from unilateralism yesterday by calling for Trident to be included in the East-West disarmament talks.

In an official document, Mr Martin O'Neill said Labour's argument that the £10 billion Trident programme should be cancelled and the resources diverted to conventional defence would no longer be tenable by the time of the next election. By 1991, too much of the £10 billion would have already been committed.

With Labour's whole defence policy under review, Mr O'Neill said that the future of both Trident and Polaris had yet to be decided. In the election campaign, Mr Neil Kinnock had pledged to withdraw Polaris within a fortnight of Labour taking power.

Trident represented an 800 per cent increase in Britain's nuclear capability when both superpowers were actively seeking a nuclear-free world. "We believe that Trident should be part of the Start (strategic arms) talks", he said.

The document, entitled *Nato in the 1990s — A Labour Party Perspective*, was submitted by Mr O'Neill to a Westminster hearing of the North Atlantic Assembly, Nato's Parliament, and appears to be the most forthright statement yet of Labour's new thinking on defence.

Mr Kinnock has refused to

Continued on page 22, col 3

Health service funds

Demand for instant £300m

By Jill Sherman, Social Services Correspondent

The Prime Minister faces a demand this morning for an immediate £300 million for Britain's hospitals from presidents of the Royal medical colleges, 1,000 hospital doctors and backbench Conservative MPs in the escalating row over the Government's record on NHS funding.

Presidents of the Royal College of Psychiatrists, the Royal College of Pathologists, the Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons in Edinburgh, and Glasgow have backed calls from other leading members of the medical profession for an urgent solution to the crisis in the National Health Service.

They have signed a petition with 1,000 consultants and junior doctors and Mr Nicholas Winterton, Conservative MP for Macclesfield, which will be presented at Downing Street today.

The campaign is demanding an extra £300 million immediately, to prevent further ward closures and service cuts, and a further £2.3 billion to make good reductions over the last six years. It also calls on Mrs Thatcher to make a commitment to fully fund health service pay awards and to find new cash sources. These could include a health stamp, a penny on taxes, or a national lottery.

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Sources indicated last night that Mrs Thatcher might bow to mounting criticism by ordering more money for the hospital services when the regional allocations are announced this week.

Following the Chancellor's autumn statement, the Secretary of State for Health and Social Security, Mr John Moore, announced that a further £700 million would be available for 1988/89 for hospital and community services.

Details of the funds were expected tomorrow but the announcements have been put back to the end of the week, fuelling speculation that the figures have been revised.

Mr Winterton said last night: "The crisis in the NHS is not due to cutbacks in funding. It is due to more patients being seen and the cost of advances in medical technology. The Prime Minister is a realist. She is rightly proud of what the Government has done for the health service and she does not want to sacrifice that."

Mr Winterton joined other Tory MPs at the weekend in calling for a long term review of NHS funding, supporting the introduction of hotel charges in hospitals and setting up a national lottery.

His call followed a British Dental Association protest against the abolition of free dental checks.

British doctor flown to Iran to treat Khomeini

By Hazhir Teimourian

A medical team, including a British doctor and two Austrians, were last night reported to have flown to Tehran to attend the Ayatollah Khomeini amid denials from Iranian officials that their leader was ill.

The medical team was said to have left Vienna on Sunday and was expected to be taken to see the 85-year-old Ayatollah at a small hospital next to his headquarters in the suburb of Jamaran, northern Tehran.

The reports, from usually reliable Iranian sources, came as the country's Oil Minister, Mr Gholamreza Aqazadeh, attending the conference of the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries in the Austrian capital, insisted yesterday that the Iranian leader was in good health.

He later left Vienna for Tehran, where state television was showing what was believed to be recorded footage of of the Ayatollah at his residence, interspersed with the usual offerings of revolutionary marches and theological sermons.

But contrary to normal daily practice, the television reports made no mention of any meetings taking place at Jamaran between the Ayatollah and his officials and supporters.

Sources in Vienna and Tehran reported on Sunday that Ayatollah Khomeini was seriously ill and in a coma. He has been treated for a heart condition in the past two years and is known to have regularly used a kidney dialysis machine for the past year.

Because of his age and frail condition, there have been several health scares about the Iranian leader in the past, after which he has reappeared without any explanations being given for his temporary disappearances from public view.

The Ayatollah's headquarters, on the mountain slopes to the north of the capital, have developed into a complex of buildings similar to a military barracks, guarded by some 600 Revolutionary Guards and batteries of anti-aircraft missiles.

The complex contains a West German-built clinic with equipment and expertise to treat heart, kidney and prostate gland complaints of the type that have troubled the Ayatollah in the past.

In London, a British neurosurgeon who had consulted colleagues who had attended the Ayatollah within the last six months, confirmed last night that the Iranian leader had also suffered from minor neurological problems within the last few months.

He said a coma could easily have been caused by a burst blood vessel, but that the Ayatollah's chances of recovery were good.

Asked about the reports of the Iranian leader's failing health, Mr Abol-Hassan Bani-Sadr, the first President of the Islamic republic, said from Paris, where he is in exile, that any illness would constitute a state secret and would be kept as such for as long as possible.

"Muslim practice permits a secret and temporary burial of a body for years, so that it can later be reinterred at a holy shrine," he also pointed out.



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NEWS ROUNDUP

Hard left call for Ulster deadline

The Labour leadership last night faced further embarrassment on the Irish question with the publication by the hard-left Campaign Group of a Bill advocating British withdrawal from Northern Ireland.

Mr Tony Benn, MP for Chesterfield, described Britain's involvement in the province as "the continued British occupation of Northern Ireland" and called for a negotiated settlement to the war after a decision had been taken to leave the north. He told a meeting in London, organized by the Labour Committee for Ireland and the Kensington Labour Party: "The question we have to face now is not whether, but when, and how soon, a British withdrawal takes place".

Discussions could then begin with everyone in the republic and the province on future co-operation after Britain had left. Mr Benn's remarks are a direct challenge to Mr Neil Kinnock, who told his party last month that withdrawal would be a recipe for spreading the slaughter to the republic and the mainland.

Sea death hearings

Disciplinary hearings against three teachers over the death of a pupil aged 13 who was washed into the sea by a wave at Scarborough, North Yorkshire, during a school camp holiday, began at County Hall, Beverley, Humberside, yesterday.

A departmental inquiry into the death said supervision "could have been better".

The body of the lost pupil, Jonathan Riley from Grimsby, was not recovered. An inquest into his death recorded an open verdict.

Swedish tree help

Sweden is to help Britain to replace some of the 15 million trees destroyed in the hurricane which swept across South-east England on October 16.

Touched by the enormity of the ecological disaster, the Swedes are to give 10,000 spruce and fir saplings.

The gesture, by the Swedish forestry commission, has the approval of King Carl Gustaf XVI.

He is a cousin of Queen Elizabeth and a recent winner of a United Nations award for protecting the environment.

Prison fear allayed

Prison officers will be assured that there is no threat of redundancy under Fresh Start, the new system of jail operation.

A bulletin explaining the aims of Fresh Start will be issued to officers today, as their union, the Prison Officers' Association, begins a three-day ballot on industrial action.

The management bulletin says Fresh Start will mean the recruitment of more officers, without redundancies. Around 1,800 new officers will have been recruited at the end of 1987-88 and about 750 of those will help to implement the Fresh Start programme.

Stalker in radio job

Mr John Stalker, former deputy chief constable of Greater Manchester, has found a new outlet for his professional talent to conduct interviews.

He is to stand in for two weeks from January 4 for Mr Derek Jameson, presenter of Radio 2's *Breakfast Show*, which is a mixture of chat and music.

"The offer to take over Derek's hot seat was quite unexpected", Mr Stalker said last night.

"I think Derek always sounds as if he enjoys the job and I hope to do the same."

Iron Lady must go

An advertisement showing Mrs Margaret Thatcher pouring water into a steam iron has been withdrawn from use in the Irish Republic.

The full-page advertisement for the Rowenta steam iron appeared in the *Irish Times* with the caption "The Iron Lady" along with a picture of the Prime Minister.

The Advertising Standards Authority of Ireland ruled that it violated the code of standards by portraying Mrs Thatcher without her prior permission.

Karpov postpones

The former world chess champion, Anatoly Karpov, used his final postponement yesterday to delay the twenty-third game of his world title chess challenge against the titleholder, Gary Kasparov.

Play resumes tomorrow. The score is 11-11, with three wins and 16 draws for each player. Kasparov has the champion's advantage of retaining the title in the event of a final 12-12 tie.

Safety experts lift threat to boycott Sellafield

By Pearce Wright
Science Editor

The Government's nuclear safety inspectors yesterday lifted their threat to halt work at the Sellafield nuclear reprocessing plant unless there were improvements in the handling, storage and discharge of radioactive waste.

British Nuclear Fuel was given clearance to continue working by the Health and Safety Executive, although the company was told some further improvements in waste storage were needed.

An ultimatum to close the plant came after a safety audit last year by the Nuclear Installations Inspectorate. The investigation was held after accidental discharges of radioactive waste into the Irish Sea caused widespread public concern.

Mr John Rimington, director general of the safety executive, said that whereas last year he had given Sellafield four marks out of 10, he would now give it seven.

He said: "BNFL have done what we requested a year ago. They have put their backs into getting immediate deficiencies right and they have given us the plant safety cases we demanded and which we are now going to assess.

"We are particularly pleased that the frequency of incidents has gone down."

However, the executive's progress report on Sellafield added: "Much of the radioactive waste on site is in unsatisfactory storage conditions".

A waste disposal route should be identified soon if the problem of waste accumulating on site was to be solved, it said.

The report said the changes were taking time and some aspects of plant maintenance and housekeeping standards were still causing concern. There was still evidence that staff did not always wear protective equipment or undergo health checks.

BNFL said it was pleased the report "acknowledges the considerable effort we have made and sees heartening evidence of our commitment to change". Mr Neville Chamberlain, the firm's chief executive, said: "We are confident that we shall continue to satisfy the inspectorate with the further work scheduled for 1988.

"We have spent £800 million in recent years on new plant, including that to reduce radioactive discharges to sea, to meet what has been seen as a principal public concern. We will now continue to commit more resources to improving older plant."

Some £8.5 million has been spent on work directly related to the audit. A further £42 million has been committed to work referred to in the audit but already previously identified by the company

● Nirex, the company charged by the Government to deal with low and intermediate waste from the nuclear industry, said yesterday it had not ruled out the likelihood of a local authority volunteering its area as a potential site for disposal.

Mr Tom McInerney, the managing director, admitted that it was possible, rather than probable, that a council would express an interest.

● The Government is shortly expected to name the inspector to head the public inquiry into the proposed Hinkley Point nuclear power station.

TV-am chief goes to Acas with 10-point peace plan

By Richard Evans, Media Editor

A 10-point plan aimed at ending the three-week-old TV-am strike, which would involve picketing technicians giving up costly "restrictive" practices, was forwarded to Acas, the Advisory Conciliation and Arbitration Service, yesterday by Mr Bruce Gyngell, the station's managing director.

The document will be considered at a meeting today of the 229 strikers at the studios in Camden Lock, north London. It was immediately condemned by Mr Alan Sapper, general secretary of the ACTT, The Association of Cinematograph, Television and Allied Technicians.

It was accompanied by a tough warning that the terms are non-negotiable – even if that means the management has to produce the breakfast show for the next year.

Mr Gyngell said: "The reason we have put this in writing is so everybody will know clearly and unambiguously what the management attitude is – and what union members will be voting on".

He added: "We are not union bashing; I want that made very clear. I feel compassion and I am upset and sorry for the individuals out there on the picket line who are having financial struggles coming into Christmas. I am concerned for them.

"But equally it is terribly important that they understand that this industry and this company needs to get its house in order if it is going to survive in the 1990s."

Mr Sapper last night described TV-am's return to work formula as the destruction of 20 years of trade union joint agreement. "This is not negotiation; It is dictat", he said.

The strike was started by a disagreement over manning levels for the station's *Caring Christmas* campaign, but has since developed into the wider issue of the management's "right to manage" and, more particularly, its wish to deploy staff as it sees fit and to end old Fleet Street-style "Spanish customs".

Mr Gyngel and his management colleagues insisted their 10-point plan submitted to the arbitration service did not amount to an attempt to rewrite the existing agreement between ACTT and the company but was aimed at removing expensive practices imposed over a number of years by the union which had repeatedly threatened industrial action if it did not get its way.

Mr Adrian Moore, deputy managing director, said if the union failed to agree to their demands "this place is impossible to manage".

Mr Gyngel produced a list of ACTT tactics to highlight what the Prime Minister has called "the last bastion of restrictive practices in British industry".

He told how TV-am wanted to send two reporters to cover the Reykjavik summit a year ago but to use technical facilities in Iceland. That would have cost a total of £16,500. But the ACTT insisted that the company sent its own crew and the total bill was £59,000, including overtime payments during the four days of £27,000.

He also described how the ACTT insisted on sending a "communications engineer" to the United States for his station's coverage of a visit by Mr Norman Fowler, the former Secretary of State for Social Services, who was on an Aids fact-finding tour. Mr Gyngel says the extra engineer was unnecessary.

"The union insisted against a threat of industrial action – i.e. blackmail – that if we didn't send an engineer to go out and supervise the US engineer feeding our material across to here, they would black it."

The technician involved did half an hour's work, suddenly announced he was taking some leave, and went and watched Superbowl, he added.

"Major news events happen and we must cover them to fulfil our responsibility as a third force in television news. That is the time the union puts the thumbscrews on, knowing we must cover the event. So the management at such times has its rights removed from it by the threat of industrial action by the union."

Because the technicians persistently objected to and often refused to broadcast archive and acquired material, "they are seeking to have, indirectly, an editorial impact on the shape and style of programming we will transmit".

The 10-point plan covers staffing of film crews, video tape editing studios, the use of freelance crews and independently produced material and annual leave.

It concludes: "Given the acceptance of the above conditions the company will agree to a return to normal working and undertakes that there shall be no forced redundancies and that staff reductions shall be achieved by natural wastage and voluntary redundancy".

Mr Gyngel added: "That clause is not there saying we will reduce staff. It is there to say we will control staff numbers."

Lake makes emergency airstrip



A single-engine aircraft by the lake at Hanging Langford, six miles from Salisbury, Wiltshire, where Mr Edgar Beck, its pilot, used the icy surface for an emergency landing on Sunday night after the carburettor froze. A police spokesman said: "He skated across the ice without it cracking ... it must have been like something out of a James Bond movie".

Scargill's opponent is jeered

By Tim Jones

Jeering Yorkshire miners abused Mr John Walsh yesterday as he tried to explain why he should replace Mr Arthur Scargill as president of the National Union of Mineworkers.

No other candidate has stepped forward to challenge the controversial union leader, whose decision to resign and seek re-election next month took even his closest supporters by surprise.

As he visited the Riccall colliery in the huge Selby coalfield yesterday, some of the 620 miners chanted "Yorkshire is Scargill".

Mr Walsh, a proud Yorkshireman, shouted to the men who surrounded him: "You are getting nowhere and getting nowhere fast".

As he condemned Mr Scargill for not having stood for re-election earlier, he was drowned with shouts of: "Resign yourself, you are no better than he is".

Before he went down the pit, which he visited in his role as the union's North Yorkshire agent, the miners chanted: "We just want more money".

In spite of the reception, Mr Walsh believes that his campaign, based on "negotiation, not confrontation", will produce a close result.

Mr Scargill received a setback to his election hopes yesterday when Scottish miners, traditionally among the most militant in the union, decided they would not nominate a candidate. Instead, the area's 4,000 union members and 1,200 craftsmen will exercise their own choice without recommendation.

Anderton article may go to Hurd

By Ian Smith

Greater Manchester police authority is again seeking talks with the Home Secretary after the latest comments by its chief constable, Mr James Anderton.

Although Mr Anderton agreed at a Home Office meeting in January to obtain prior clearance from Mr Stephen Murphy, the police authority chairman, before issuing any sensitive statement, the chief constable is quoted in a *Woman's Own* magazine article as being willing to flog criminals.

According to the article, Mr Anderton believes some homosexual acts between consenting male adults should be made criminal offences, because they are condemned in the Bible.

He is reported as saying about the Home Office meeting: "I listened to their advice and then carried on as I always have and always will".

The matter will be discussed on Friday by the police authority and Mr Douglas Hurd, Home Secretary, may then be asked to sanction his dismissal under section five of the Police Act 1964 "in the interests of efficiency".

Meanwhile, Mr Murphy is expected to seek legal advice on what independent action the authority can take.

Mr Ken Strath, a police authority member, called for Mr Anderton's immediate suspension and his removal from office by the Home Secretary.

Mr Murphy said yesterday he believed the chief constable had completely snubbed the agreement made in January. Mr Murphy said: "He is a good policeman but the sad fact is that he glories in the limelight.

"We do not feel he is entitled to use his position as chief constable to obtain the sensational publicity he does. He has a job to do for the people of Greater Manchester, that is what we pay him for.

"He will not take any advice from me but I've said it before and I say it again. 'Shut up'."

The Home Office said last night: "It is quite clear that his views are not those of the Government. In a personal capacity he is entitled to voice his opinion."

Mr Anderton, when asked if he planned to resign, replied: "You must be joking".

● The budget for three of the biggest police forces in Britain will rise by 6.2 per cent next year, the Home Office said yesterday.

The forces are Greater Manchester, Merseyside and the West Midlands.

Mr Hurd concluded that the levels for South Yorkshire, Northumbria and West Yorkshire should remain the same.

On civil defence and the fire service, Mr Hurd decided that the spending levels for Tyne and Wear, Merseyside, London and the West Midlands should remain the same but those for South Yorkshire and West Yorkshire should be increased.

The redetermined expenditure levels are £1.3 million higher than those announced in July.

'Error did not profit Exchequer'

By Robin Oakley
Political Editor

The head of the Government Statistical Service is to investigate the calculation system which led to a computer error in the monthly compilation of the retail price index, it was confirmed in the Commons yesterday by Mr Norman Fowler, the Secretary of State for Employment.

Mr Fowler promised that the Exchequer would not be allowed to profit from the mistake at the expense of benefit claimants.

A statement later this week from Mr Nicholas Scott, the Minister for Social Security, will set out how 9.5 million pensioners are to be compensated.

Mr Fowler rejected the claim in the Commons yesterday from Mr Michael Meacher, the shadow spokesman on employment, that the error resulted directly from the cost-cutting review of government services under Lord Rayner, which had been designed to cut the number of statisticians from 1,430 to 960.

Mr Fowler told MPs in a Commons statement that the mistake was a "simple human error" in computer programming which had meant that both the level of the retail price index and the year-on-year rate had been understated by one tenth of 1 per cent in most months from February 1986.

On average, pensioners would have lost about £2 each in 1987-88, or about 5p a week.

They would have lost about £2.60 in 1988-89 if the Government had done nothing.

Mr Meacher called for the refunds to be paid as a lump sum before Christmas and to be extended to those in receipt of other benefits, such as widows, the disabled and those receiving invalid care and mobility allowances.

The error would mean that tax allowances would also have been under-calculated and he wanted to know if those with index-linked savings and pensions would be contacted and repaid.

Mr Fowler replied that the error had nothing to do with staff cuts and said that pensioners had lost £1,000 million when the last Labour Government had changed the system of uprating.

Parliament, page 4

Anglicans round on leadership

By Clifford Longley
Religious Affairs Correspondent

The Anglican Association, made up of Church of England traditionalists, has deplored what it calls an attempt by the church's leadership to suppress consideration of the *Crockford's* preface.

In a statement, the association also criticized the policy sub-committee of the Standing Committee of the General Synod for its "insensitivity" in not deferring its meeting on the preface until after the funeral of its author, Dr Gareth Bennett.

The committee met last Thursday, and declared its "total confidence" in the two church officials involved, Mr Derek Pattinson, secretary general of the synod, and Mr James Shelley, secretary of the Church Commissioners.

Dr Bennett's funeral service will be held this morning at the chapel of New College, Oxford, of which he was a fellow, led by the Bishop of London, the Right Rev Graham Leonard; the Bishop of Winchester, the Right Rev Colin James, and the Bishop of Chichester, the Right Rev Eric Kemp.

The survey of the state of the church Dr Bennett presented in his preface should be seen as an agenda to be discussed rather than suppressed, the Anglican Association declared.

"Regrettably, this has hitherto appeared to be the reaction of the 'elitist liberals' who have taken over the church, and have almost totally excluded from any influence those who wish to uphold the church's official doctrine and worship."

Unless Dr Bennett's views were taken seriously, "the church will not come out of this episode in a very flattering light", the statement said.

Letters, page 15

Monthly videos of BBC news

A monthly video tape series of BBC news reports is to go on sale early next year, it was announced yesterday.

The new BBC Enterprises project is expected to raise at least £100,000 a year, with a substantial proportion from foreign sales.

Newsbrief will be produced by an independent company in west London, with the BBC providing the basic material in the form of a master tape. The end product will cost about £30.

Howe signals desire to succeed as Tory leader

By Richard Ford, Political Correspondent

Sir Geoffrey Howe yesterday gave a clear indication to the Conservative Party that he remains a potential candidate for the leadership whenever Mrs Margaret Thatcher quits.

The Foreign Secretary made clear that he saw his political future in the House of Commons when he said that the Woolsack, for which he has often been tipped, had recently been occupied by an extremely good Lord Chancellor from Scotland.

He added: "I am very happy in my present job and I am content to go on serving the party, Government and nation in whatever way seems most effective for some years to come".

As if to counter arguments that at 61 he is too old to be a serious contender for the succession, Sir Geoffrey said: "I am still quite a young man".

He also admitted that a letter written to his constituency chairman on Conservative objectives for the years ahead was intended to show that the Government "has a number of strong voices, experienced voices who are singing in harmony, not in a monotone unison".

He denied that the letter revealed any conflict with the Prime Minister with whom he had worked for almost thirteen years but said it was an attempt to repel the "entirely false image" of the party as one comprising hard-faced individuals who had done well.

In his letter Sir Geoffrey warned his party that it had to debate the social and moral context in which the market operated and that it still had much to do in tackling social tensions, tension caused by the generation gap, racial differences, class and regional divergences.

It had to point to new horizons "without becoming tiresome preachers".

Asked whether he was a closet "one nation" Conservative, now almost a term of abuse in the party, Sir Geoffrey replied: "I am not a closet one-nation Tory. I think every member of the Government is an open one-nation Tory.

"We all believe that opportunities that at one time were enjoyed only by a minority should be extended to all."

Tunnel's role in time of war

By Michael Evans, Defence Correspondent

Britain and France are to draw up secret plans to defend the Channel tunnel against all possible threats including terrorist attack and conventional warfare, Mr George Younger, Secretary of State for Defence, announced in London yesterday when he and his French counterpart, M André Giraud, signed an agreement.

Senior officials who will work out the defence needs have also been asked to consider how the three tunnels (two rail and one service tunnel) could best be used as a transit link for troops reinforcing Europe in time of war.

Military units such as the SAS and the Special Boat Squadron are likely to be involved in any plans for dealing with a terrorist attack.

Arrangements will also have to be made to defend the tunnel, in time of international tension, against possible attack by Soviet "Spetsnaz" commando forces.

The other key aspect of the study is using the tunnel as a wartime troop lane to Europe. At present, British forces would have to sail on requisitioned ferries. During the "transition to war" period, the tunnel could be taken over by the military.

Officials from Eurotunnel, the Anglo-French company which is building the £6 billion Channel tunnel, are expected to be involved in the security studies. Yesterday a spokesman said: "The question of security and defence is a matter for the two governments".

The three-tunnel project which will link Cheriton in Kent with Sangatte, outside Calais, is due to be completed by 1993. Boring will begin next month.

B-Cal staff backing for SAS likely

By Harvey Elliott, Air Correspondent

A meeting of engineers and ground staff of British Caledonian today is expected to back the proposed merger with the Scandinavian airline SAS.

Mr Mick Alleway, secretary of the engineering and maintenance joint shop stewards committee for the airline, said: "We appreciate that there is in practice little that we can do but we must be allowed to state our preference."

An application by British Airways to have the licences held by B-Cal revoked will not take place until February 1 and the public hearing is then expected to last around two weeks.

It could then be another three months before the Civil Aviation Authority gives its final decision on whether the airline remains "British" under the terms of the Civil Aviation Act, by which time British Caledonian could be in serious financial difficulties.

British Airways knows that and is hoping that by creating doubt about the medium term viability of the airline it will persuade investors that it is better to take its cash offer now rather than face months of uncertainty.

B-Cal lawyers are studying the attempt to revoke its licences which, they believe, could be illegal in itself.

Firms get advice on ethnic jobs

By John Spicer
Employment Affairs Correspondent

Dr Aaron Haynes, chief executive of the Commission for Racial Equality, issued a warning yesterday that the black community was becoming more vocal and more organized in its demand for changes in employment and other fields.

He called on British companies to do more to improve employment opportunities for ethnic minorities.

Dr Haynes was speaking at a news conference to launch two booklets by the commission advising companies on how to train managers and staff to alter their attitudes and provide opportunities for ethnic minorities.

● The Commission for Racial Equality has warned the Oxfordshire Council for Community Relations that its funds may be withdrawn unless there are changes in the way it is run.

Training: The Implementation of Equal Opportunities at Work (Commission for Racial Equality, Elliot House, 10/12 Allington Street, London SW1E 5EH).

Divorce halt

Seconds before Mr Denzil Davies, MP, was to end his 24-year marriage, on grounds of his wife's unreasonable behaviour, she objected in the London Divorce Court yesterday.

Buying The Times overseas
Austria Sch 25; Belgium B Frs 80; Canada $2.75; Canaries Pes 200; Cyprus 80 cents; Denmark Dkr 12.00; Finland Mark 9.00; France F 9.00; W Germany Dm 3.00; Gibraltar 70p; Greece Dr 200; Holland Gl 3.50; Irish Republic 40p; Italy L 3,000; Luxembourg Lf 40; Madeira 80; Malta 70c; Morocco Dir 12.00; Netherlands Gl 3.50; New Zealand $2.50; Norway Kr 10.00; Pakistan Rps 18; Portugal Esc 200; Singapore $5.50; Spain Pes 200; Sweden Skr 12.00; Switzerland S Frs 3.00; Tunisia Dnr 1.50; USA $2.00; Yugoslavia Dnr 3,000.

Parents seek rights against mistaken child abuse rulings

By Peter Davenport

An organization formed by parents wrongly accused of abusing their children yesterday called for new rights to protect families from misguided and over-zealous professionals.

Parents Against Injustice (Pain) has advised more than 1,000 families since its formation in July 1985, the Cleveland child sexual abuse *inquiry* was told yesterday.

Mrs Susan Amphlett, its director, said the damage caused by a mistaken diagnosis was often as great as that in a case where abuse had taken place.

She told the inquiry: "A wrongful accusation introduces great stress and anxiety, which has a harmful effect on parents and child and results in the opposite effect to that which intervention is supposed to achieve.

"I cannot stress enough that it can never be in the interests of a particular child to be removed from a happy, loving and stable home where there is no risk of abuse, even on a temporary 'just in case' basis."

Mrs Amphlett, the penultimate witness at the inquiry which began in August, formed her organization after being wrongly accused of abusing her daughter, whose problems were later diagnosed as due to brittle bone disease.

As well as advising parents, the group trained social workers, doctors and nursery staff, Mrs Amphlett said.

A local branch was set up in Cleveland during the summer by parents whose children had been taken into care after being diagnosed as sex abuse victims by the consultant paediatricians Dr Marietta Higgs and Dr Geoffrey Wyatt.

Mrs Amphlett, a state registered nurse from Henham, Bishop's Stortford, Hertfordshire, said that increasing numbers of parents were being wrongly accused of child abuse.

There were those, she said, who believed that to protect abused children it was necessary to taken an over-cautious approach despite the fact that some mistakes might be made.

She added: "As far as I am aware no extensive research has been done on the effect of such a mistake on the child. However, from my own experience and that related to me by other parents, even in a situation where children are not removed from the home they suffer considerably, both emotionally and physically, in particular from stress and insecurity".

The authorities, she said, must not be allowed to dismiss such parents as a "sad fact of life". They had to find ways of getting their diagnoses right.

Mrs Amphlett said that the current attitude of professionals in child care was that any action taken could be justified as being in the best interests of the child.

Cases filed with the organization showed, she said, that mistakes had been made and that children had been abused in the process.

"It is apparent to us, therefore, that parents should be allocated rights with which to protect their children from misguided and over-zealous professionals", she said.

The rights should be incorporated in a statutory and enforceable code of practice on the assessment and investigation of suspected cases. Current guidelines, she said, were insufficient and could be ignored by agencies. Place of safety orders were being granted too readily and too frequently and no longer being used only when a child's life was in danger, which was the original intention. Parents should have the right of appeal.

Mrs Amphlett said that many families wrongly accused of abusing their children had seen their lives devastated, jobs lost and marriages ruined all without redress.

The inquiry resumes tomorrow to hear evidence from the final witness, Mr Stuart Bell, the Labour MP for Middlesbrough.

It will then adjourn until late in January for closing submissions from lawyers before Mrs Justice Butler-Sloss, the judge, begins to prepare her final report, which is expected to be ready in about April or May.

Lawyers representing 12 of the families in the Cleveland controversy disclosed yesterday that they intend to issue writs seeking damages for the alleged false imprisonment of children. The writs will also allege assault, negligence, and possibly conspiracy. They are to be served on Dr Marietta Higgs and Dr Geoffrey Wyatt, the Northern Regional Health Authority and Cleveland social services.

Too-small maternity units 'risk to life'

By Jill Sherman
Social Services Correspondent

Mothers and babies are being put at risk in small obstetric units, because of inadequate facilities and low staffing levels, the Association of Anaesthetists said yesterday.

The association said there are 24 times more unavoidable deaths due to errors by anaesthetists after obstetric operations than after operations from all other surgical procedures combined.

Last week the association published a study showing up to 1,000 hospital patients may die each year because of errors of judgement by surgeons and anaesthetists.

Professor Michael Rosen, the association's president, said: "About 13 healthy young women die each year in England, Scotland and Wales as a result of complications from anaesthaesia, out of 80,000 obstetric operations.

"This is the equivalent of 120 maternal deaths for each million operations, mainly caesarian operations. The combined figure for avoidable deaths for other surgical operations arising from anaesthetic procedures is only five in a million."

Launching a report on the future of anaesthetic services for obstetrics, Professor Rosen said the problem was largely because there were too many obstetric units, staffed by too few anaesthetists.

The Obstetric Anaesthetists Association recommends a minimum of one consultant anaesthetist per unit dealing with 500 to 3,000 deliveries.

A recent survey from the National Birthday Trust found that anaesthetists were not immediately available in 10 per cent of units dealing with from 500 to 2,000 deliveries a year and 60 per cent of small units with fewer than 500 deliveries a year.

Professor Rosen said: "In many units there are delays of up to 45 minutes before the anaesthetist on call arrives, a delay which can be critical."

The report recommends:

- In small units with infrequent requests for anaesthesia, anaesthetic cover should be withdrawn and mothers should be given the choice of being transferred to larger units if they want access to anaesthetic procedures.
- Small obstetric units which offer a substandard level of anaesthetic services should be closed, amalgamated or relocated within a district general hospital or unit. A single district unit is strongly recommended.

Anaesthetic Services for Obstetrics — A Plan for the Future (Association of Anaesthetists of Great Britain and Ireland, 9 Bedford Square, London WC1).

A window to success



Miss Beth Higgins, aged 25, from south London, won first prize in the South Bank Picture Show yesterday with her "One window, one city" painting. Miss Higgins, who is the first woman to win the competition since it began 10 years ago, received £2,500 from Sir Roy Strong, retiring director of the Victoria and Albert Museum (Photograph: Chris Harris).

Five steps towards an education in science

By John Clare
Education Correspondent

A first attempt to define what *all children should learn about* science between the ages of five and 16 was published yesterday by a working group appointed by Mr Kenneth Baker, Secretary of State for Education and Science.

The group's report identifies 22 sub-themes under five headings: living things and their interaction with the environment; materials and *their characteristics*; energy and matter; forces and their effects; and the earth, atmosphere and space.

It outlines what pupils should know about each subtheme at the ages of seven, 11, 14 and 16.

"We have aimed to produce a framework that is simple, clear and coherent while allowing full scope for the enterprise of teachers and schools", the report says.

"The science education we want to promote should be accessible to all pupils. It should be broad enough to cover the economic, social, personal and ethical implications of science; balanced enough to reflect the interrelatedness of physics, chemistry and biology; relevant to pupils' everday experiences and to today's world; and sufficiently differentiated to be equally accessible to different ability groups, to girls as well as boys, and to pupils of all social, cultural and ethnic backgrounds."

Mr Baker said the report was a substantial and imaginative document.

Abuse case mother is jailed

A mother who allowed her eight-year-old daughter to watch teenage couple having sexual intercourse was jailed for 18 months yesterday.

The Central Criminal Court was told that the child was encouraged to dress up in fishnet tights and wear heavy make-up on party nights which were held regularly at their home.

The mother, aged 30, her husband and her father were cleared at the court in September of 23 charges of sexual abuse of the woman's four children and four other children of neighbours in Sydenham, south-east London.

The case collapsed when her eldest daughter broke down in tears in the witness box and could not face the ordeal of continuing her evidence.

The dropping of the charges against the adults led to the introduction of screens at the Central Criminal Court from behind which alleged victims of child sexual abuse have been giving evidence.

Yesterday, the woman pleaded guilty to ill-treating and neglecting her daughters, now aged 10 and eight.

Charges alleging the neglect of her two sons, which she denied, were ordered to remain on the court file after Mrs Linda Stern, for the prosecution, told Judge Lymbery that the boys had to be protected from giving evidence "at all costs".

The children are now wards of court and "happily" living with foster parents.

Mrs Stern said that when the woman's husband left the family home last year, taking their sons, it "triggered off" her strange behaviour. She allowed a teenage girl to move in as a lodger. Disturbed youths from a hostel near by began to visit the house.

Mrs Stern said neighbours saw the two sisters play shoeless in the street and wearing few clothes. The children were filthy and their hair was crawling with lice.

Their mother failed to protect them from injuries inflicted by "delinquent" youths. Doctors found burn marks, bruises and scratches on the eldest girl who also alleged that she had been raped.

Divorce proceedings are pending and four months ago the woman gave birth to a fifth child which is now in care.

Publicly funded legal advice

Law aid Bill 'will hurt poor'

By Frances Gibb, Legal Affairs Correspondent

An unprecedented alliance of legal bodies warned Lord Mackay of Clashfern, the Lord Chancellor, yesterday that the Legal Aid Bill amounts to the biggest threat yet faced by publicly-funded legal services in England and Wales.

The groups, including the Bar, the Law Society, the National Consumer Council, the Law Centres Federation, the Legal Action Group and the Advice Services Alliance said the Bill will dramatically reduce services to the poor.

The groups, whose statement was issued on the eve of the Bill's second reading today, say proposals to transfer advice work done by solicitors in housing and welfare will lead to a cut in services to the public and a removal of choice.

Without adequate funding, advice groups cannot and will not take on the job of giving legal advice to the public, they say.

The statement says the proposals will hit in particular parts of the country already poorly served by advice and law centres, especially rural and inner city areas.

The National Consumer Council said that advice agencies are already overworked and underfunded. Yet they are shortly to take on the job of advising people on housing, consumer protection, social security, and employment.

Legal advice will in future depend on where someone lives, it said. "In 1986 it was estimated that there was one advice worker for 3,750 people in London; for 9,250 people in Merseyside; for 17,750 in East Anglia and for 23,250 in the East Midlands.

The groups also say that the new Legal Aid Board which is to take over the running of the legal aid scheme will be "stillborn" and a "puppet" of the Lord Chancellor.

There are no assurances that it will be independent of government, they say; nor any guarantees that there will be adequate representation on the board itself.

The Legal Aid Bill abandons the principle of "fair remuneration" for legal aid work, with the result that lawyers are likely to pull out of legal aid work altogether.

The joint statement also attacks proposals to make legally-aided applicants contribute to the costs of their case throughout its duration.

This will deter many people from seeking remedies because they will not know the ultimate costs involved, it says.

£350 fine for fatal crash

A woman whose son was killed in a motor crash involving a drunken driver failed in the High Court yesterday to obtain police documents to back a private action for causing death by reckless driving.

Mrs Janet Hallas, aged 47, of Long Eaton, Derbyshire, took action in the High Court after Paul Clarke, of Lenton Abbey, Nottinghamshire, admitted drink-driving and was fined £350 and banned for a year.

£315,000 for crash injuries

Mr Mark Nowell, a former nuclear submarine chief petty officer, of Pensby, Merseyside, aged 52, was awarded £315,000 damages yesterday for injuries in a car accident.

A piece of fencing entered Mr Nowell's brain when the car in which he was travelling crashed, leaving him partially paralysed.

Knife youth is sentenced for killing fan

A knife-wielding youth who killed a football supporter aged 17 during a "terrifying night of violence" between football gangs was sentenced to four years' youth custody yesterday.

Mr Darryl Penny, a Bradford City supporter, struggled 50 yards with blood pouring from his chest after being stabbed in a clash with Huddersfield supporters.

A jury at Leeds Crown Court cleared Owen Monteith, aged 19, of murder and found him guilty of manslaughter and affray.

Sentencing Monteith, of Hammerton Road, Huddersfield, Judge Dean, QC, told him: "People who carry knives and kill must receive sentences which not only affect them but deter others".

Mr Tom Culver, for the defence, said Monteith had been provoked by racial abuse.

Paul Cousins, aged 19, of White Abbey Road, Bradford, and Peter Morris, aged 18, of Halifax Old Road, Huddersfield, two gang leaders, were each sentenced to 30 months in youth custody.

Two Old Masters fail to find a buyer

SALEROOM
By Sarah Jane Checkland
Art Market Correspondent

Sotheby's recently departed Old Master expert, Mr Eric Turquin, sustained two big disappointments in his new capacity as a Parisian auctioneer with the firm Guy Loudmer yesterday. Two of his prize paintings, by Cranach and Chardin, failed to sell.

The first, by Cranach, has as its subject Lucretia, the Roman matron who killed herself after having been raped. She is shown preparing to plunge the dagger.

Mr Turquin's catalogue contains some speculation on whether the painting is by Lucas Cranach the Elder (1472 to 1553) or his son Lucas Cranach the Younger (1515 to 1586).

Lucas Cranach the Elder is preferable, being regarded, with Dürer and Holbein, as the third important name in sixteenth-century German painting but from 1537 both worked together. The painting, estimated at FFr1.5 million, was unsold at Fr520,000 (about £50,000).

Also given a special catalogue to itself was a still life by Jean-Simeon Chardin, bought in at Fr980,000 (about £95,000).

The price of Fr2.3 million was achieved for a painting of the Repentant Mary Magdalene by Simon Vouet (1590-1649) and Fr660,000 (about £64,000) for a still life of fruit in a basket by the Dutch seventeenth-century artist Jacob Van Hulsdonck.

By lunchtime yesterday, Sotheby's London seemed fated to sell only half the goods at its Oriental manuscript and miniatures sale. However almost everything sold in the afternoon session and the sale totalled £422,768, with 26 per cent unsold.

In the morning, runaway prices included that of £18,700 and £16,500 for two turbanned portraits of Persian ambassadors to the court of Rudolf II, Holy Roman Emperor in 1604 and 1605.

Both were painted by a Flemish artist, Esaye le Gillon, and they had been estimated at £4,000 to £6,000 and £3,000 to £5,000 respectively. Both were bought by Spink, the dealer.

In the afternoon, sixteenth and seventeenth-century Korans fetched remarkable prices, both doubling their estimate, selling at £15,000.

A twelfth-century fragment of the Koran on light brown paper sold for £22,000 (estimate £20,000 to £30,000). Another surprise was the success of Persian manuscripts, such as that by Muhammad Ibrahim al-Husaini for the commander of the Shirazi horsemen.

£21,185 shoes may stay in Britain

By Lynda Murdin

Mr Richard Luce, the Minister for the Arts, has stopped a pair of seventeenth century shoes from going abroad.

He announced last night that he had recommended deferring a decision on an expert licence for the goods.

The women's shoes, circa 1620, are described as "extremely important to the history of the subject". Only one other pair, at the Royal Museum of Scotland, is known to exist.

British public collections have until March 4 to buy the pair, priced at £21,185. When sold by Lord Hereford at Sotheby's in September, the shoes — a late version of a style designed to stop high heels sinking into the ground — were bought by an anonymous buyer for the record price of £20,900. The new value includes VAT on the buyer's premium.

Mr Luce also recommended to the Secretary of State for Trade and Industry that two other export licences should be deferred in case they can be saved for the nation. They concern an album of designs relating to the jewellers, Charles Ouizille and Pierre Francois Drais, valued at £50,625 and a plaster model for the monument of Archbishop Tillotson by Joseph Wilton at Sowerby (£275,000).

Christmas sales

Shops expect late, late rush

By Robin Young

Christmas is a little late this year, most retailers agree, but it is still confidently expected to outperform last year's season of goodwill and maximum expenditure as a commercial venture, stock exchange setbacks and bear markets notwithstanding.

The fact that Christmas Day falls on a Friday this year is cited by many as having more psychological significance for the pattern of sales than any vagaries of the equity industry or talk of world recession.

"The extra shopping day in Christmas week encourages people to leave everything a little later, and to leave everything till the last minute", a leading retail chain's spokesman said.

The John Lewis Partnership's 21 department stores have already bettered last year's peak Christmas week, taking £30 million in the week to December 5, an 8.7 per cent increase on sales in the same week of 1986.

Mr Ian Anderson, the director of trading, says that performance will need to be beaten in the remaining shopping days if the group's targets for 1987 are to be achieved.

Mr Robert Austin, marketing director of Debenhams, said that trade had been improving healthily since the middle of November. A 12-hour sale last week produced sales two and a half times higher than those on the same day last year.

At many branches of Sock Shop and Tie Rack, shops which have rejuvenated the image of socks and ties as desirable gifts rather than as tedious expressions of dutiful obligation at Christmas time, sales are showing improvements ranging from a tenth to a fifth over last year.

The jewellery group, Ratners, is also delighted with sales of watches and fashion items, which it says are running well ahead of last year's sales where comparisons are possible.

Boots says that at its 1,000 branches sales of cosmetics and perfumes are now booming, though high-cost items are somewhat lagging.

Electrical retailers such as Rumbelows, Dixons and Comet also report cheap items selling well but more highly priced goods selling not as quickly as had been hoped.

Around the regions trade is said to be "marginally up" in Glasgow, "substantially ahead" in Cardiff, "healthy" in Manchester, "breaking all records" in Peterborough, but "sluggish" in Birmingham.

Government figures released yesterday showed that sales in November, after the stock market crash, continued to rise, exceeding October's record total by a further 1 per cent.

In the three months to November, the volume of sales was 1.5 per cent higher than in the previous quarter, and 6 per cent better than in the same period of 1986.

The figures are seen as confirming the Confederation of British Industry's confidence that this Christmas will set new records, though possibly by not as a wide a margin as some optimistic expectations had supposed.

Vicar exorcises a haunted trawler

By Ian Smith

A Church of England exorcist and the Department of Employment have ended ghostly happenings aboard the fishing vessel Pickering.

Mr Derek Gates, aged 42, the captain, and his crew signed on the unemployment register when the ship's steering developed a will of its own, lights began to go on and off, heated cabins turned cold and the radar and the engine kept breaking down.

Benefit office staff at Bridlington, Humberside, were sceptical, except for Mr James Trowsdale, a counter clerk who is also a lay preacher at the town's Holy Trinity Church.

He had heard similar tales of ghostly goings-on aboard the Pickering from the trawler's former skipper, so he spoke to his vicar, the Rev Tom Willis, one of only seven official Church Of England exorcists in the country.

Mr Willis discovered that one of the crew had once been lost overboard, so he held a shipboard service of exorcism in Bridlington Bay. All is now well aboard the Pickering.

The Department of Employment emphasized that the intervention by a member of their staff was personal and not professional. "We do not want people to presume we are in the ghost-hunting business. Our role is to find jobs, not restless spirits."

Dear Mr. Moore, You could help other mums help their children — will you?

My daughter's name is Julie. Advertisement

She's 20 years old and should be having the time of her life — but she's not. She has Hodgkins Disease and has to endure a very specialised combination of chemotherapy and radiotherapy — and I sit and watch her sickness, nausea and tiredness — giving her the best encouragement I can. I am her tower of strength, her shoulder to cry on, her best friend all rolled into one — giving her the courage to fight on.

I am always there when she needs me.

She attends Southend Cancer Unit minimum twice a week, maximum five times a week. I go with her every step of the way and she knows we all love her very much. We're lucky because we can go to Southend Cancer Unit together — if this unit closed I know other mums like me just couldn't give this life-saving support.

Please, please, please help other mums help their children — keep Southend Cancer Unit open — DON'T LET IT CLOSE.

Signed Julie's Mum

Help Save Southend Cancer Unit — write to John Moore, Health Secretary NOW!

Save Our Southend cancer unit

Inserted on behalf of: Save Southend Cancer Unit Campaign, c/o 35 Clatterfield Gardens, Leigh-on-Sea, Essex.



December 14 1987

PARLIAMENT

Miscalculation of RPI Index due to human error

Miscalculation of the Retail Prices Index since early 1986 through computer mistakes happened because of human error and not, as the Opposition alleged, because of cuts in the number of statisticians, Mr Norman Fowler, Secretary of State for Employment, told MPs.

He promised that the Exchequer would not benefit from the error and that MPs should get details this week on what was to be done to sort out the problem.

He pointed out that the underpayment to pensioners was about 5p a week.

Replying to a private notice question, he said that a mistake in the monthly compilation of the RPI had been made in 1985.

"As a result, both the level of the index and the year-on-year inflation rate have in most months, from February 1986 to October 1987, been understated — on average, by about one-tenth of 1 per cent."

The Minister of State for Social Security (Mr Nicholas Scott) hoped to make a statement this week on what would be done about it, in line with the principle that the Exchequer should not benefit from the effects on social security spending.

TREASURY

"The computer program error has now been put right and I believe our calculation system to be wholly correct.

"I am, however, asking the Head of the Government Statistical Service to review it."

Mr Michael Meacher, chief Opposition spokesman on employment, condemned the system under which the calculating error had been made as a direct result of a cost-cutting Rayner review of Government services in 1982-83.

The review had been designed to reduce the number of statisticians from 1,430, in May 1979, to 960, in April 1984.

"What is the point of installing computers if the number and calibre of the statisticians using them is cut so much that fundamental errors like this are made?" (Labour cheers and Conservative protests)

"Cost-cutting, so far from improving efficiency, is often a false economy" (renewed Conservative protests and Labour cheers).

Why did DHSS officials always round down their figures instead of rounding them up, knowing that millions on benefit would be denied the full increases, which were their right?

Would the compensation be paid before Christmas in lump sums? Why not extend it to other people in receipt of other benefits, which the Government was obliged to uprate in line with inflation: widows, the unemployed, the sick, war and disabled pensioners, women on maternity allowance, people receiving attendance allowance, invalid and care and mobility allowances and their dependants?

Conservative MP (amid general Conservative protests): Old Uncle Tom Cobleigh and all.

Mr Meacher went on to say that tax allowances had also been under-calculated. So would people with index-linked savings and occupational pensions be contacted and repaid?

Since pensioners on supplementary benefit were going to be compensated — and that was right — would others on benefit, whose need was just as great, also be compensated?

"Since there are no lengths to which this Government will not go to claw back money from those whom it alleges have been overpaid, surely the Government must now be evenhanded with all whom it has short-changed" (Conservative protests and Labour cheers).

Mr Fowler charged that Mr Meacher had "typically got it entirely wrong, all over again".

There was no question of the miscalculation having anything to do with staff cuts. It was simple human error, which the Government regretted.

It was due to a computer program designed for socialist inflation (Conservative laughter). It had missed out anything after the decimal point (continued laughter).

That might have been all right when inflation was running at 20 per cent, but when it was down to 4 per cent, that was obviously a different matter (loud Conservative cheers).

As for claw-back, he reminded Labour MPs that the biggest fiddle had come under a Labour Government that had changed the whole basis of uprating. Pensioners had lost £1,000 million and never got it back (Conservative cheers).

Mr Scott would be making a statement to MPs about this matter later in the week.

The average repayment to pensioners who had lost because of the miscalculation was about £2 for 1987-88 — about 5p a week. It would be £2.60 in 1988-89 and they would lose £5.20 if the Government did nothing about it.

Mr Anthony Nelson (Chichester, C) said that pensioners should be recompensed because their position was different from social security beneficiaries who moved in and out of benefit. It would be wrong to use the situation as an opportunity to extend the payments that Parliament had provided.

Mr Fowler said that no one had stolen more from the pensioners than the last Labour Administration. The Government was seeking to put the mistake right as soon as possible.

Mr James Wallace (Orkney and Shetland, L) asked if there had been any changes in the arrangements for checking the computer program? While he accepted that the Treasury would not benefit, would there be anyone who would lose as a result of the error?

Mr Fowler said that the Government would seek to make special payments. That pledge had been given to pensioners.

The error had come to light as part of the regular checks that were made. The system was now entirely correct, but it would be reviewed.

Mr Robert Cryer (Bradford South, Lab) asked for an explanation as to why the error had gone unnoticed for 21 months.

Mr Fowler said that he would not preclude the statement that was to come. The Exchequer would not gain from the underpayments: that was a firm pledge.



Mr Norman Fowler (left), who came under fire from Mr James Wallace (centre) and Mr Michael Meacher over the computer programming error.

Price plea for the elderly

People who were "old and cold" should not be asked next year and the year after to pay big, unnecessary increases in electricity charges to give City slickers a big profit when electricity was privatized, Mr Max Madden (Bradford West, Lab) said during Commons questions.

He told Mr Michael Spicer, Under Secretary of State for Energy: "It will not wash for ministers to give comparisons between United Kingdom electricity prices and those in the EEC where pensions are much higher than they are here."

Mr Spicer said that the precise increases would depend on what further success the industry had in cutting costs. "But we expect that the average household's expenditure will increase by 40p a week and the average pensioner's expenditure by 30p to 35p a week."

Any increase next April would be the first effective increase since April 1985. Since then single pensions had risen by £5.25 a week.

Miss Marjorie Mowlam (Redcar, Lab) asked if, after April, there would still be lower tariffs for industries such as ICI.

Mr Spicer said that last week there were Labour complaints about heavy increases on industrial costs, but now the tune seemed to have changed.

● The Government was concerned that the number of gas disconnections from people's homes was increasing, Mr Peter Morrison, Minister of State for Energy, said.

Mr Simon Hughes (Bermondsey Southwark, L) claimed that the rate of cut-offs had increased by 40 per cent over the past six months.

Mr Morrison said that the Gas Consumers' Council was looking into the matter.

MPs discuss electricity needs

Parkinson emphasizes support for coal

ENERGY

The Government believes that British Coal, with improved productivity, would become the supplier of choice to a privatized British electricity industry, Mr Cecil Parkinson, Secretary of State for Energy, said during question time.

Mr Kevin Barron (Rother Valley, Lab) said that, in considering the international competitive position of the coal board, three things should be considered: the present stocks, reflecting investment in 1983 after the oil crisis; the price in relation to the current weakness of the dollar; and that if there was a switch to the international market by the British electricity industry, that price would rise.

Would he answer the question that the chairman of the coal board had recently asked: Were they going to close further pits, a step which would be totally unjustified?

Mr Parkinson: No. The Government has made clear by word and by financial support that we want a strong, viable and competitive coal industry.

I agree that it is misleading to take the marginal price of coal in the international market because, if British electricity went into the market for 80 million tonnes, the price would be bound to rise.

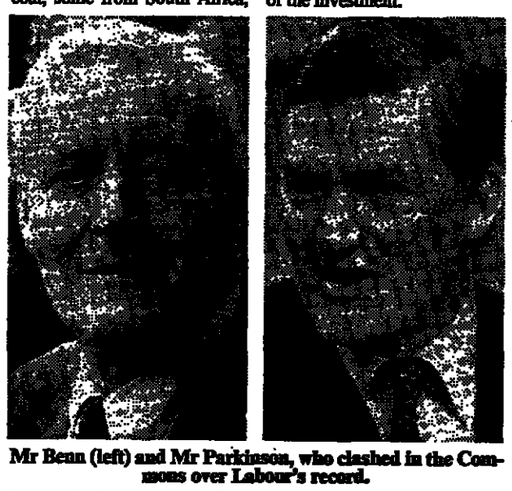
Sir Trevor Skeet (North Bedfordshire, C) said that some grades of coal should be imported. The Colombians, South Africans and Australians could undercut British prices and the reality of the situation must be faced.

Mr Parkinson: Of course we have to have a competitive coal industry, but there are certain grades of anthracite and industrial coal of which we do not have enough.

That is one reason for the proposed investment at Margam. We need a new approach to working arrangements.

Mr Tony Benn (Chesterfield, Lab): Has it occurred to him that the policy of importing coal, some from South Africa, approached in the closure of pits, with miners then not getting the level of redundancy compensation they got under this Government.

Coal imports represent 8 per cent of total coal consumption. I want to see a strong British coal industry, and we are putting up £2 million a year to make sure of the investment.



Mr Benn (left) and Mr Parkinson, who clashed in the Commons over Labour's record.

further pit closures, and selling off profitable pits, confirms almost every forecast made by Arthur Scargill since he became president of the National Union of Mineworkers?

He forecast them with clinical precision and that has to be set against the problem of hypothermia which is likely to kill many people this winter, for lack of cheap coal.

Mr Parkinson: I am surprised that he wants to talk about closures. He has a record which no other minister has ever

● The national grid would not be broken up after privatization of the electricity industry, Mr Parkinson told MPs during questions.

"In spite of rumours to the contrary, nobody in the Electricity Council, the Central Electricity Generating Board, the Government or the area boards wants the grid broken up because they believe the industry has a bright future.

"Consumption of electricity is growing and they believe that in the private sector they can offer their employees a more secure and better paid future.

"They intend to ensure that workers in the privatized industry receive shareholdings at preferential rates."

Mr Robert Adley (Christchurch, C) pressed the Government for a "categorical assurance" that preservation of "this jewel in the electricity industry's crown" would be written into the privatization legislation.

Mr Parkinson: There is and has been no question of a break-up of the grid. An integrated grid has served us well and will continue to do so.

Mr Peter Rost, (Erewash, C) contended that 10 of the 11 area electricity boards wanted to become individual utilities after privatization.

They wanted to compete against each other. Some felt that they could produce electricity more cheaply than they could buy it from the grid.

Mr Parkinson said that the area chairmen wanted the right to generate in their own areas. At present, with the exception of one power station in Hereford, none had any generating capacity at all.

During other questions, Mr John Prescott, chief Opposition spokesman on energy, asked Mr Parkinson to confirm that it was the unanimous view of the CEGB that the national grid should not be separated from electricity generation.

Lord Marshall, chairman of the CEGB, took the view that if they were separated, under public or private ownership, the security of electricity would be reduced, with greater risk of blackouts.

Mr Parkinson said that the CEGB thought that it should retain the grid and that it needed an integrated system in which the CEGB controlled the power stations and grid.

There was also a strong body of opinion that transmission should be separated from generation. "We have not yet made a decision on these two arguments."

● The public liability insurance for each nuclear plant of only £20 million was woefully inadequate, Mr Alistair Darling (Edinburgh Central, Lab) said during Commons questions.

He asked Mr Cecil Parkinson, Secretary of State for Energy, to point that out to Lord Marshall, chairman of the Central Electricity Generating Board.

He said that Mr Parkinson should also point out that if the industry were privatized it should make proper provision for this risk and not rely on the City to underwrite the risk, thereby giving a generous subsidy to one of the industry's main running costs.

Mr Parkinson said this was an important point. But there was a great deal of additional expenditure, far in excess of the £20 million, on ensuring that accidents did not happen.

● Mr David Knox (Staffordshire, Moorlands, C) asked during Commons questions whether the balance between United Kingdom research and European research into alternative energy sources was right or whether more should be done on a Community basis.

Mr Michael Spicer, Under Secretary of State for Energy, replied "Over a period of years we have done reasonably well from the EEC on renewables.

"Our present renewable programme is valued at about £77 million, of which the Commission pays £5 million. We have decided to increase expenditure on renewables in the next year."

People signing on will get job details

BENEFIT

Everyone who seeks unemployment benefit for the first time after next February will be given information about occupations in which jobs are available in areas of employment buoyancy, Mr John Cope, Minister of State for Employment, said during a debate on unemployment.

He said that all new claimants of unemployment benefit from next February would be asked to fill in a questionnaire, giving information about the type of work they seek, the steps they are taking to find it and their qualifications and experience.

Mr Norman Fowler, Secretary of State for Employment, had earlier that day announced the new questionnaire, which came after criticism of the present practice of requiring those seeking benefit to sign a special form at job centres.

Mr Robert Clay (Sunderland North, Lab) moved a private member's motion calling attention to unemployment and deploring its devastating effect on individuals and communities.

Some people would say that this appalling situation was now being ameliorated by new jobs being created, he said. But even the announcement of the desparately needed new jobs at Nissan today, some of which had already been announced as part of the go-ahead for phase two last year, would bring the number of new jobs created in his borough since 1980 to slightly fewer than 6,000.

That compared with job losses and redundancies, confirmed by Department of Employment figures, in the same period, of nearly 23,000.

The Government's notion of a strengthing enterprise culture relying on the private sector to provide jobs where the public sector had failed was an absolute myth.

As well as those who had been made redundant, many of them several times, many people lived in permanent fear of losing their jobs. They were therefore unable to make decisions about marriages and partnerships, about buying homes or cars or furniture or about supporting their children in higher education.

Many unemployed people not only faced the misery of poverty but recent surveys also showed that there were also adverse effects on their health.

It was absurd that so many people were unemployed while so many others, such as ambulance drivers and nurses, were over-working.

The average working week for full-time employees in the United Kingdom in 1985 was 42.8 hours, including overtime. The figures were 32.5 hours in Canada; 34.9 in the United States; 33.3 in Belgium; 39.1 in Spain; 40.7 in West Germany and 34.5 in Australia.

The working week should be reduced to 35 hours, shift workers' hours should be reduced further; there should be early retirements in the most strenuous jobs and sabbaticals for all workers. That package would reduce the real level of unemployment by more than half.

Mr Cope, whose responsibilities include small firms, training and enterprise, said that Mr Clay had exposed his own and Labour's prescription for dealing with employment problems. It was gravely mistaken.

Unemployment was now falling at a record rate of more than 50,000 a month because jobs were being created.

SDP-Liberal talks

Alliance prepares for launch

By Nicholas Wood, Political Correspondent

The Liberals and the SDP will bring forth tomorrow the child of their 10 weeks of talks on the terms for a new party of the middle ground of politics.

It should be a momentous event. The Liberals, the party of Asquith and Lloyd George, are casting aside 128 years of turbulent tradition.

The SDP, the party born out of disillusionment with Labour's leftward drift in the 1970s, is jettisoning the fleeting hope that a small but dedicated band of idealists can unlock the two-party grip on power single-handed.

But as the Alliance, as it will henceforth be known, unveils the fine print of its new constitution, press and public will be distinctly "underwhelmed". The heady days of the Limehouse declaration, complete with claret and cameramen, are gone, probably for ever.

It is not hard to divine why. After its election setbacks and the trauma of the split with Dr David Owen, the coalition is in low double figures in the polls.

An increasingly weary Mr David Steel, the Liberal leader, has hardly whetted the media's interest with his repeated references to the boring and tedious nature of the negotiations and his evident distaste for the cumbersome way in which they have been conducted.

Yet the two teams of negotiators have cause for satisfaction. Through about 200 hours of talks, stretching late into the night and fuelled by little more than coffee and sandwiches, they have resolved matters of extraordinary complexity and in the process struck an enviable balance between the cheerful anarchy of the modern Liberal Party and the bloodless democracy of the SDP.

Next year, once the package is approved, the Alliance will again be able to address itself to the voters free, it hopes, of many of the internal tensions and contradictions that proved so damaging in June.

The long day's journey into night started on September 29, 11 days after the Liberal conference ended in Harrogate.

To all intents and purposes, it ended last Thursday, only 24 hours after Mr Steel had said that there was a serious possibility that the carefully constructed merger timetable, aimed at a lift-off just before the council elections next May, would be wrecked unless agreement was reached swiftly.

Lo and behold, agreement was reached. Though not with the embarrassment of Mr John Cartwright, Dr Owen's anti-merger lieutenant, announcing that the Alliance would, after all, be called the Alliance.

It had all seemed very different a few days earlier, with the negotiators in effective permanent session. Then Mr Steel had been backing the title the Liberal Democrats and letting it be known that he would settle for the Democrats in deference to SDP susceptibilities.

But he had reckoned without Mr Alan Beith, his deputy leader, and one less ready to bid farewell to his roots. "I was a Liberal, I am a Liberal and I shall always be a Liberal", he announced at last Wednesday's session of talks and the Democrats quickly became the Alliance, in spite of its less than glorious associations, readily conceded by Mr Steel only a few hours earlier.

But then the past — distant and recent — has been the unseen hand as the talking caravan has processed around Whitehall from the fading Victorian grandeur of Liberal Party headquarters to the mews charm of Cowley Street, pausing along the way to pay homage to the Whigs of the Reform Club and battles long forgotten at Westminster.

The Liberals, by embracing such innovations as a properly constituted twice-yearly conference, sovereign in policy matters and working closely with a 30-strong federal policy committee, and a ballot of members on matters fundamental to the values and interests of the party, have accepted a great deal.

But, given that some of their meetings have been held in the David Lloyd George room at Liberal Party Office, their readiness to compromise has not been altogether surprising.

Lloyd George, after all, was the man who destroyed the Liberal Party, plunging it into a lifetime on the political margins. The ghost of his disastrous intransigence has been an ever-present reminder of the need to carve out a new future.

The SDP's "empty chair" has been rather more immediate. Dr Owen and his 43 per cent support have hovered over the talks, forcing Mr Robert Maclennan and his team to bargain hard for the principles for which they once all fought.

Despite his ineffectual public image, Mr Maclennan, insiders say, has proved a determined negotiator, attending all the meetings, unlike Mr Steel, who has never hidden his distaste for fine detail.

A seaside dispute for peers

By Our Political Staff

The House of Lords will decide a dispute tonight between the bucket-and-spade brigade and yuppie yachtsmen as they fight for supremacy in Swanage Bay.

The dispute centres on a development plan to give over half of the bay for a private marina for 250 yachts. It will mean dividing the bay in two by building a huge curved breakwater 17 feet above sea level.

Five peers on a select committee have drawn up a report on the Swanage Yacht Haven Bill, which would allow the development, with three backing it and two against.

It goes for a third reading to the full House tonight. However, Lord Raglan has tabled an amendment which, if agreed, would wreck the Bill.

After the committee's visit to the town it reported a coastal resort and fishing port showing signs of decay.

"The charm of Swanage was that it was unsophisticated and that it was a place where families could go for a traditional bucket-and-spade holiday."

In favour of the marina it argued that it would lengthen Swanage's holiday season and bring prosperity to the area.

Swanage Town Council carried out a poll last month that showed 2,600 people against the plan and 1,100 in favour.

Lord Raglan said it was the poll that led him to oppose the marina. He felt the economic argument put to the committee narrowly tipped the balance in favour.

However, of the 40 jobs likely to be created, two-thirds were linked with the development of 100 homes that already had outline planning permission.

Intellectual property Bill gets bogged down in Lords

By Sheila Gunn
Political Staff

Attempts to produce legislation that will cover intellectual property into the twenty-first century have become bogged down in the House of Lords.

After 30 hours of debate spread over five days the peers have covered less than a third of the Copyright, Designs and Patents Bill's 200 pages during its committee stage.

With only one division so far, most of it will have to be debated again at report stage after the Government has examined more carefully the effect of its far-reaching provisions.

This week the Government's business managers rejected pleas from senior peers to give the Bill to a select committee to sort out.

Instead they have had to extend the detailed committee stage to a seventh day, January 12. Originally it was hoped that most of the Bill would be through the Upper House before Christmas.

In an implicit rebuke at the lack of progress Lord Denham, the Government's Chief Whip, told the House that the committee stage will be concluded on January 12 "at whatever hour that may be".

He called for restraint in speeches and in tabling amendments.

"It is generally accepted on all sides of the House that it is incumbent on all noble lords to see that the Government are enabled to get their business through in reasonable time", he said.

Peers are united in describing the Bill as a nightmare. As it is highly technical yet non-party political it was picked as one of the Bills to be started in the House of Lords this session.



Lord Denham: Call for restraint in speeches.

Lord Lloyd of Kilgerran, QC, a top patent lawyer, told *The Times*: "This Bill is not suited to be dealt with in accordance with the procedures of the House of Lords.

"It should have been given to a committee upstairs where it could have been thrashed out by the experts as it is a purely legal and non-political measure."

Once in the House of Commons the Government can use its large majority to get it into law.

The Bill, which is in practice three measures in one, was preceded by green and white papers with consultations.

It was hailed by Lord Young of Graffham, Secretary of State for Trade and Industry, as establishing a framework for intellectual property law, taking account of technological advances, which will last for 20 or 30 years. However, many senior peers do not believe the balance between the conflicting interests has been achieved in a workable fashion.

The main complaint from the peers is that it appears to have been drafted by civil servants rather than lawyers.

Further, in attempting to protect the rights of creators of original work, they have continually raised the issue of its effect on others.

Lord Young predicted that the reforms will "encourage creativity and enterprise and the growth of fair competition"; however, many of those involved believe it will prove an administrative nightmare but a blessing to lawyers who will eventually be paid to determine how it should be applied.

For instance, from Labour's front bench Lord Morton advised "editorial teams" on *The Times* and *The Economist* to seek a lawyer's advice as to their "moral rights" once the Bill is enacted.

Nearly all of the 300 and more amendments tabled so far have been "probing amendments" to gauge the Government's attitude and encourage re-drafting.

Lord Beaverbrook, a whip, has been in charge of most of the committee stage for the Government, agreeing to take back much of the Bill for consultations.

One senior peer described the measure as "a maverick Bill with maverick peers".

It has drawn attention to the lack of a register of members' interests in the House of Lords as most of the peers involved are speaking on behalf of various lobbies whether publishers, industry or unions. Few peers have disclosed their interests during the debates.

Confusion in an MP's mind

Mr Hugh Dykes (Harrow East, C) said during questions that the Government appeared to want to increase the rate of return in the electricity industry by increasing the charges to consumers because the rate of return was currently under 2.5 per cent, only a quarter of what private industry got.

It seemed that "once that rate of return has been increased and attracts private investors into the electricity generating industry, competition will drive the charges down. Obviously there is a subtle point in the Government's policy that has escaped my attention, but does that make sense?"

Mr Michael Spicer, Under Secretary of State for Energy, said that was a good assessment. The only point he had to make was that it had been a Labour government which had introduced the concept of 5 per cent return on new investment in the public sector.

Noise rules

Regulations to control the sale of motor-cycle silencers and exhausts and to provide tighter noise limits for motor cycles first used from October 1, 1990, are to be circulated for comment early in the new year, Mr Peter Bottomley, Under Secretary of State for Transport, said in a written reply.

Parliament today

Commons (2.30): Questions: Employment; Prime Minister. Local Government Bill, completion of remaining stages. Motions on Welsh Rate Support Grant.

Lords (2.30): Legal Aid Bill, second reading. Swanage Yacht Haven Bill, third reading.

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Judges' clerks hint at taking law chief to court over pay

By Frances Gibb, Legal Affairs Correspondent

A pay dispute involving judges' clerks could lead to Lord Mackay of Clashfern, the Lord Chancellor, being taken to court.

The 108 members of the Judges' Clerks' Association who work for the High Court and Court of Appeal judges are protesting over the erosion of their pay differentials with senior Civil Servants.

At the same time, some 1,000 members of the Government in-house legal service are considering court action against the Chancellor of the Exchequer over pay anomalies which arose from restructuring of scales last year.

Yesterday Miss Sue Corby, the assistant general secretary of the First Division Association, which represents lawyers in government departments across the Civil Service, said judicial review proceedings was an option to which the association was now giving "preliminary consideration".

She said: "We have been negotiating with the Treasury for the past year over this and they are sticking. We estimate that some of our members have lost some £11,000 over the two years as a result of the way the restructuring was done."

The First Division Association, which also represents lawyers in the Crown Prosecution Service, is already suing the Director of Public Prosecutions over the use of junior clerks to screen cases for prosecution.

The Judges' Clerks' Association yesterday wrote to the Lord Chancellor hinting it may take him to court if something is not done about their situation.

Yesterday Mr Neville Hinsley, the association's vice-chairman, said: "We are most unhappy about this. It is not something we want to do; we have been forced into it. But it really is our only option."

In spite of repeated requests for an explanation from the Lord Chancellor's Department and letters to their union, the Society of Civil and Public Servants they have heard nothing.

Mr Hinsley said that if nothing happened, the next step would be the issue of a writ without any warning seeking judicial review proceedings.

The clerks, who are drawn from the ranks of retired senior police officers, service personnel over the rank of warrant officer and barristers' clerks, receive £11,557 a year.

They say their salary level has been overtaken by Civil Service executive officers, in breach of an agreement made in 1971 with the Lord Chancellor's Department.

The executive officers have moved ahead by £8 a year when previously the judges' clerks were ahead by £238 a year.

The only problem, the association says, is finding a judge to hear their claim; by the nature of their work they know all the country's top judges on a personal basis.

The association said: "Although aggrieved, we will never consider going on strike or taking any action that might embarrass our judges in any way. There is no question of a picket line for judges to cross."

The clerks, whose work is frequently of a confidential nature, are private secretary and personal assistant to judges, making sure their working lives run smoothly. They also have to valet for their masters.

Heathland restoration wins top prize



Mr Mark Rose, manager of the Suffolk Trust for Nature Conservation, visiting the Sandlings project in the coastal area of east Suffolk, which yesterday won the overall prize at the Ford British conservation awards. The project shared first place in the natural environment category with the Kinder Scout revegetation project in Derbyshire, but the Suffolk scheme, which centres on a management plan for lowland heathland, won the overall prize of £5,000. The Suffolk trust sponsored the project which had groups such as Suffolk County Council, Suffolk Coastal District Council, UK 2000, the Countryside Commission, the Nature Conservancy Council and the Manpower Services Commission, which gave £176,000 towards last year's £250,000 total funding. The project is aimed at restoring some of the 80 per cent of the rare heathland which has been lost since 1920 to forestry, crops, air bases, urban development and golf courses. Ford this year organized 14 conservation awards to coincide with the European Year of the Environment and the Suffolk project will now be considered at the European prize-giving in Madrid next March. Lord Belstead, Minister of State at the Department of the Environment, presented yesterday's awards.

(Photograph: Stephen Markeson)

Manpower training: 2

£2.6bn to shorten the jobless queues

The Government's employment service and Training Commission will help to equip a new generation of school leavers with vital skills — and retrain unemployed adults for the modern labour market. ***Ronald Faux, Employment Affairs Correspondent,*** *examines the new strategy.*

The unhappy spectre of school leavers signing up for unemployment benefit may soon be consigned to the past. If the latest government initiatives are successful, pupils will face three choices when they leave school: further education at a college or university; a Youth Training Scheme (YTS) course; or a job.

The highly successful Community Programme, which took 230,000 mainly young and unqualified people off the unemployment register, is to be merged with the new Job Training Scheme (JTS) for long-term unemployed adults.

The new scheme has yet to be given a name, but the Government's objective will be to provide up to one year of training leading to a practical qualification and individual counselling to anyone who has spent more than six months unemployed.

As a joining incentive and in order to make the scheme more attractive to unions, the Manpower Services Commission (MSC) — soon to become the Training Commission — is to pay trainees a "benefit-plus" allowance of about £10 a week.

But the real incentive, Mr Norman Fowler, Secretary of State for Employment, says will be the solid qualification the new scheme leads towards.

For school leavers, the Youth Training Scheme which lasts two years, will continue unchanged, except that the Manpower Services Commission is keen to attract into it employed youngsters who want to improve their skills.

The Youth Training Scheme has the full backing of trade unions and a wide spectrum of 5,000 managing agents in private industry and local government. They have shown a stronger willingness to help young people who cannot find work than the long-term adult unemployed.

Many employers taking part in the Youth Training Scheme are reluctant to become involved with the Job Training Scheme because of rising hostility to the scheme from the unions.

This has been sharpened by the Government's decision to appoint more employer commissioners to the manpower commission, ending the even representation from the two sides of industry.

The new scheme will give up to one year of training to a maximum of 600,000 adults and will become the Government's main weapon in helping the jobless and improving the skills of those who are employed.

Together the measures will account for £2.6 billion of government spending. Other schemes are designed to help married women return to work and give budding entrepreneurs the chance to start their own businesses. High technology training is also being introduced at schools.

The latest initiative offers £1 million over five years to higher education institutions that provide "enterprise" training.

Recent trends suggest that the unemployment problem will lessen as the economy improves, job vacancies multiply and more workers become qualified to fill them.

Already in London, competition for workers is fierce between banks, finance companies and building societies.

But the predictions are not all rosy. Britain's plunging demographic curve could mean that by the early 1990s, the number of girls leaving school with five O levels and one A level will be no more than the normal total intake of young people into the Civil Service administrative grades and into nursing.

One danger is that school leavers will try to satisfy short-term employment goals in industry rather than build long-term careers. Many could be attracted to poorly paid, low-calibre work instead of training for qualifications that could be a passport to rewarding, skilled jobs.

The hope is that retraining programmes will allow some of the adult long-term unemployed to take advantage of the new demand for workers. Between trained school leavers and retrained adults, the skilled manpower difficulty may be significantly eased.

RNLI inquiry on capsize of inflatable boat

By David Sapsted

An investigation was ordererd by the Royal National Lifeboat Institution yesterday into why a lifeboat capsized off south Devon.

The crew of three, wearing exposure suits and life-jackets, had to swim through waves six feet high for 15 minutes before reaching the beach at Dawlish Warren.

The RNLI said yesterday that the 16-foot inflatable craft, based at Exmouth, had been called out on Sunday to help a windsurfer later rescued by an RAF helicopter. It was believed a wave flipped the lifeboat over.

The Exmouth lifeboat is one of 80 inflatable craft operated by the RNLI. The institution said: "They have an excellent safety record and, until the inquiry is completed, the cause of this accident is a mystery".

£1,000 fine for mayor council takes to court

The mayor of Boston, Lincolnshire, was fined £1,000 yesterday after being prosecuted by his own council for keeping a dirty shop.

Environmental health officers found flies, beetles, rotting fruit and vegetables, and meat scraps.

Dick Harlow, aged 63, of Sibsey Road, Boston, who admitted 11 offences under food hygiene regulations, was also ordered to pay £200 costs.

Remand in envelope case

Derek Simpson, aged 42, a plumber, of Andersons Place, Hounslow, west London, who is accused of throwing an envelope at the Prince and Princess of Wales last week, was remanded in custody for a week by Horseferry Road magistrates yesterday.



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AS THE NEEDLE TOUCHED 201.6 Km/h THE LOUDEST THING IN THE AUDI 100 WAS HERR BECK'S SUIT.

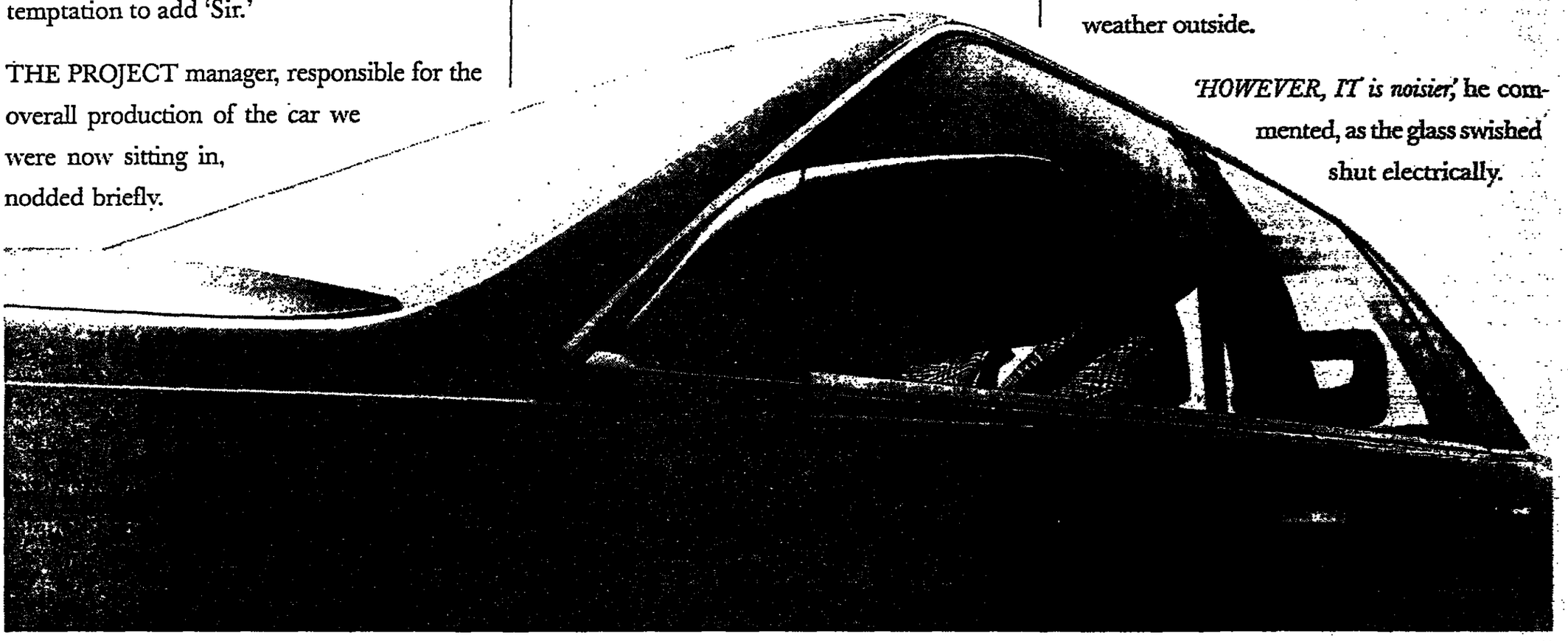
'HERR BECK will be with you in two minutes,' smiled our host, politely closing the doors.

FOR 119 seconds we sat in spacious comfort, peering out morosely at the rain sweeping across the Erha-Lessien test track.

THEN AN immaculate Herr Beck was settling easily behind the wheel. We were off.

'GOOD MORNING', we chorused, resisting the temptation to add 'Sir.'

THE PROJECT manager, responsible for the overall production of the car we were now sitting in, nodded briefly.



'GENTLEMEN, YOU will observe we are moving at a speed of 100 kilometres per hour. This was achieved in 9.8 seconds.'

TAKEN ABACK, we observed. Closely.

'THERE ARE two points to note. The first is that the intermediate acceleration times of the 100 are, in each case, at least two seconds faster than any of its nearest rivals. Consequently, power is readily available when it is most needed; accelerating away from trouble, for example.'

INVOLUNTARILY WE turned our heads. Only damp and rapidly receding test track met our gaze.

'The second is that'...

'YES?' WE breathed.

...'IT IS extremely quiet.'

MY COMPANION'S attempt at an awe-inspired whistle sounded like an amplified wheezy kettle. It *was* very quiet. A whisper from the windscreen wipers, the murmur of the road...

'I AM increasing the speed,' continued our driver, taking us up to 201.6 kilometres per hour. The engine maintained its gentle hum, Herr Beck his soft, businesslike manner.

'THE REASONS for the lack of noise are threefold; a five-cylinder, fuel-efficient engine (delivering 42.8 of your miles to the gallon); a coefficient of drag of 0.32; and a meticulous approach to sound proofing.'*

WE SUSPECTED that he was about to elaborate. He was.

'I AM sure you are familiar with the five-cylinder engine, pioneered by Audi. The aerodynamic drag factor of the Audi 100 was also an unbeaten first. We are flattered that so many manufacturers have attempted to emulate our aerodynamic designs.

THE BASIC shape of the car was devised in over 2000 hours of experiment in a wind tunnel, using a scale model of 1:4. This achieved a Cd of below 0.25. On a prototype, Dr Leie assessed the implication for styling, where the drag power, expressed as $P_L = 12.9 \cdot 10^{-6} \cdot c_w \cdot A \cdot v \cdot (v+v_0)^2$*, would not affect the Cd factor by more than 0.05. The result is the flush mounting of headlamps and windscreen, and the specially developed wipers and mirrors, as you see.'*

HERR BECK looked thoughtful. We looked askance.

'THE IMPLICATIONS of transverse drag were also considered. The Audi 100 is less susceptible to cross wind buffeting than virtually any other car. Additionally, with a front window open, the overall Cd factor is only increased by a negligible 0.008%.'

HERR BECK opened his window to demonstrate, and we were suddenly aware of the brutal weather outside.

'HOWEVER, IT is noisier,' he commented, as the glass swished shut electrically.

CALM RESTORED, our man went on. *'While the Cd factor is primarily responsible for the reduced cabin noise, hydraulically dampened engine mounts account for the lack of vibration. The accoustic transmission to the driver's seat is currently around 77 decibels. At, say, 100 kilometres per hour it would be less than normal speech levels. This is helped by special gear box and engine insulation materials developed by Herr Kuiper, our manager of Physics.'*

A REMINISCENCE of G-clamps, bunsen burners and physics lessons was interrupted by the inevitable question.

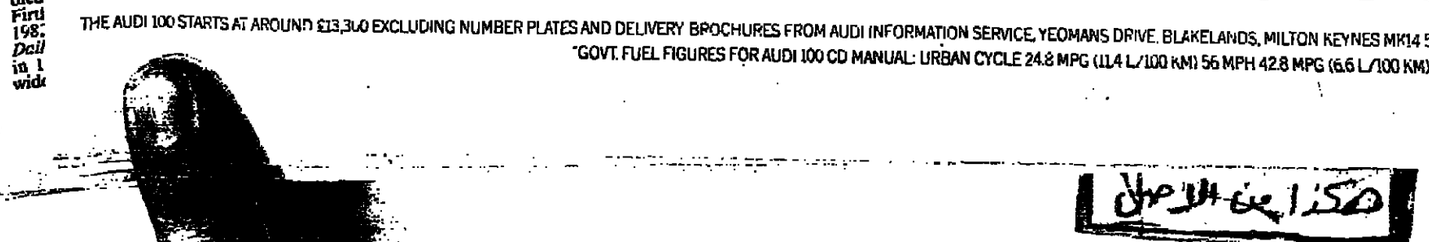
'SO, GENTLEMEN, any queries?'

THANKS TO the Audi 100, we couldn't pretend to have missed a word. Say something, I thought to myself.

'THERE IS one thing, Herr Beck,' I ventured. 'Could you tell me the name of your tailor?'

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*GOVT. FUEL FIGURES FOR AUDI 100 CD MANUAL: URBAN CYCLE 24.8 MPG (11.4 L/100 KM) 56 MPH 42.8 MPG (6.6 L/100 KM) 75 MPH 33.2 MPG (8.5 L/100 KM).



WORLD ROUNDUP

21 die in attack on Gulf tanker

Oslo (Reuter) — Twenty-one crewmen from a Norwegian-run tanker set ablaze by Iraqi jets were killed in the worst single attack on merchant shipping of the Gulf War, shipping officials confirmed yesterday.

The jets fired Exocet missiles into the 218,467-tonne tanker Susangird, owned by the National Iranian Tanker Company and managed by the Norwegian firm, Reksten, as it sailed from Iran's Kharg Island. A spokesman for Reksten said five other seamen were being treated in hospital after surviving the attack last Wednesday and Thursday, and that Iran had abandoned an air and sea search for the remaining crew, including the ship's Norwegian captain.

Two-way deal hint

President Reagan's new National Security Adviser, Lieutenant-General Colin Powell, yesterday disclosed that the President and Mr Gorbachov had discussed the possibility of linking solutions to the conflicts in Nicaragua and Afghanistan during last week's summit (Michael Dynes writes).

The Soviet leader had indicated willingness to consider cutting back the arms supply to Nicaragua in return for a US undertaking on the Mujahidin.

Tamils in rival clash

Colombo (AP) — At least 10 people were killed in fighting between rival Tamil groups, Sri Lankan military officials said yesterday. They said that additionally guerrillas of the main group, the Tamil Tigers, detonated explosives under an Indian military convoy, killing one soldier and wounding nine others.

The Tigers have been attacking smaller Tamil militias because they support the July 29 Indian peace plan to end the war.

Contra talks delayed

Managua (Reuter) — The Nicaraguan Government postponed a second round of peace talks with the US-backed Contra rebels only hours before it was due to begin yesterday. According to Catholic Church and diplomatic sources here, the Government wanted more time to prepare for the talks, which had been scheduled to take place in the Dominican Republic.

£1m costs sought

Hong Kong (Reuter) — Two businessmen acquitted following Hong Kong's longest and costliest trial asked the colony's High Court for costs yesterday.

Rogerio and Stephen Lam, associates of George Tan, former chairman of the collapsed Carrian group, asked for costs that lawyers said could reach $HK20 million (£1.4 million).

Purge in Serbia

Belgrade — Pressure from Mr Slobadan Milosevic, the hardline chairman of the Serbian Communist Party, has ended with the ousting of his more liberal rival, Mr Ivan Stambolic, until now the President of Serbia (Dessa Trevisan writes).

Mr Stambolic is the latest victim of what is regarded in Serbia as a witch-hunt against liberals in the party and official press.

'Ivan' identity theory

Jerusalem — The trial of Mr John Demjanjuk for the war crimes of "Ivan the Terrible", the executioner of Treblinka Nazi extermination camp, resumed here yesterday with defence evidence from a forensic anthropologist who is expert in showing how people change in appearance with age (Ian Murray writes). Dr Yassar Iscan, a Turkish-born professor at Florida Atlantic University, has prepared a video showing how to superimpose a skull onto a photograph. His technique contrasts with that of an identification expert called earlier by the prosecution.

Geldof's gleam of hope amid the horror

From Paul Vallely
Maputo

For Bob Geldof, the contrast could not have been greater between the horror of the first day and the hope of the second on his fact-finding tour of the famine-stricken regions of Mozambique.

In a resettlement area within the safety of the Beira Corridor, 3,800 peasant women and their healthy-looking children gathered good-humouredly for a cereal distribution to augment the food they can now grow in the small plots of land they have been allotted.

Only months before they had resembled the blank-eyed, despairing human skeletons Geldof had seen the day before in the reception centre at Inhaminga, where they had fled from the atrocities of the Mozambican National Resistance forces.

The settlement was near the town of Dondo. To mark the fact that the refugees hope one day to return to their homes in the Mauanza district, they have also named their new village in Dondo, Mauanza.

The area from which they had fled was a dry region, but despite the low rainfall since 1981 they had managed to scratch a living. What drove them out was the terror tactics of the MNR guerrillas.

When they arrived wearing only leaves and the bark of trees, they had few men in their number and many widows and orphans.

Mr Philipe Paunde, the settlement's administrator who is himself a refugee, told Geldof: "We have people here who have been mutilated by the terrorists." Their stories were of torture, humiliation, wanton destruction and enforced labour.

Geldof declined a suggestion that he should meet them. "Why add to their shame by making showpieces of them? Let's look at the positive things," he said.

The achievements of the refugees were considerable. They had arrived in February, when each family was allotted a half hectare (1.2 acres) of land and given tools and seeds supplied by Western donors.

Since then they had built 597 houses, a school and a health centre. They had found foster parents among their number for 85 orphans. They had planted 125 hectares of maize and sorghum, 60 of rice and 45 of mandioca.

"It is amazing how much you have done in such a short time. It is amazing how well the people look," Geldof said, as a large party of refugees put on an impromptu singing and dancing display for him.

"Food is still short. We need more clothes and tools because more refugees arrive all the time, about 40 a month. But people are halfway to self-sufficiency now. We only need half the food aid we did at first," Mr Paunde said.

Dondo is one of almost 1,000 such resettlements for some of the 1.8 million farmers who have been displaced by the war.

The journey to Dondo, along the start of the Beira Corridor which links Zimbabwe with the sea, gave depressing illustration of the extent to which the country's economy has been crippled by the deliberate destabilization tactics of the South African-backed rebels.

Factory after factory Geldof passed was operating, he was told, on less than half of its capacity. One cement factory produced only 15 per cent of what it should.

Further illustration of the paralysis of the economy was given to Geldof earlier when he was taken to the sugar plantation town of Morromeu, where last year the MNR, in a well-organized raid, destroyed £4.5 million worth of sugar-processing equipment.

Viewing the generators, which had been destroyed with dynamite, Geldof said: "The situation really fills you with disgust. The rebels here are not attempting to do anything constructive. They just destroy, kill, rape and mutilate. It is barbaric and quite clear that there is no attempt to offer an alternative form of government or to win the hearts and minds of the people. It is just wanton barbarism."

Israel 'iron fist' tactics inflame Arab anger as Gaza toll rises

From Ian Murray, Jerusalem

Another Palestinian was shot dead and more than 20 wounded yesterday when troops opened fire to break up the sixth day of violent protests against Israeli occupation of the Gaza Strip.

The angry mood in Gaza deepened with reports that Israeli soldiers had urinated in the water supply, forcing mains to be cut off to some areas. UN Relief and Welfare Agency (UNRWA) workers reported that troops in some camps were arresting stone-throwing youngsters and forcing them to ride on the front of army vehicles as a protective screen. There were also reports of women and children being beaten with batons and rifle butts.

According to Israeli figures, yesterday's death brought to six the number of demonstrators killed since the violence began on December 6 with the stabbing of an Israeli. The Palestinian count over the same period is 14 dead.

Those rival figures reflect the different attitudes of the two sides. While Israel is seeking to play down the disturbances, the Palestinians are boosting the figures by including five deaths in a road accident and three who are said to have died of wounds after being shot.

Both sides, however, agree with Mr Shmuel Goren, the Israeli Administrator of the Occupied Territories, who yesterday told the Knesset's foreign affairs and defence committee: "I cannot remember such a period of disturbance." He said the casualties were high because small army units were getting into situations where they had to shoot to save their lives. Violence was dying down, he said, though there were problems about the conduct of the border police.

Once again the reasons for the situation described by Mr Goren vary according to which side is giving them.

Israeli security sources say that the Palestinian unrest is a direct result of a clampdown by the border police in the past fortnight to prevent the Gaza Strip and the big West Bank camp at Balata, near Nablus, becoming "no-go areas".

Sources claim that under orders from Shabiba — the Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO) youth movement — youngsters were stoning cars and patrols, and that women and children joined in. Those refusing to take part are said to have been beaten up by gangs of club-wielding, black-cloaked Palestinian youths. In consequence, the peaceful "silent majority" is said to have asked the Israelis for protection.

These police include many Israeli Arabs who have a deserved reputation for roughness in dealing with Palestinians. Their behaviour in Balata last week, when they are alleged to have vandalized homes and cars and beaten up women and children, is under official investigation.

Palestinian sources agree that the border police began a new "iron fist" policy about two weeks ago, but they give very different reasons for this.

According to Mr Elias Zananiri, editor of the Palestine Press Service, "there is a new school of thought since the hang-glider attack on Israel last month". He said the fact that one Palestinian could infiltrate Israel and kill six soldiers had exploded the myth of Israeli soldiers as supermen.

He said Israel needed to restore credibility after the hang-glider attack. "They could not retaliate against Syria, so they took it out on the camps."

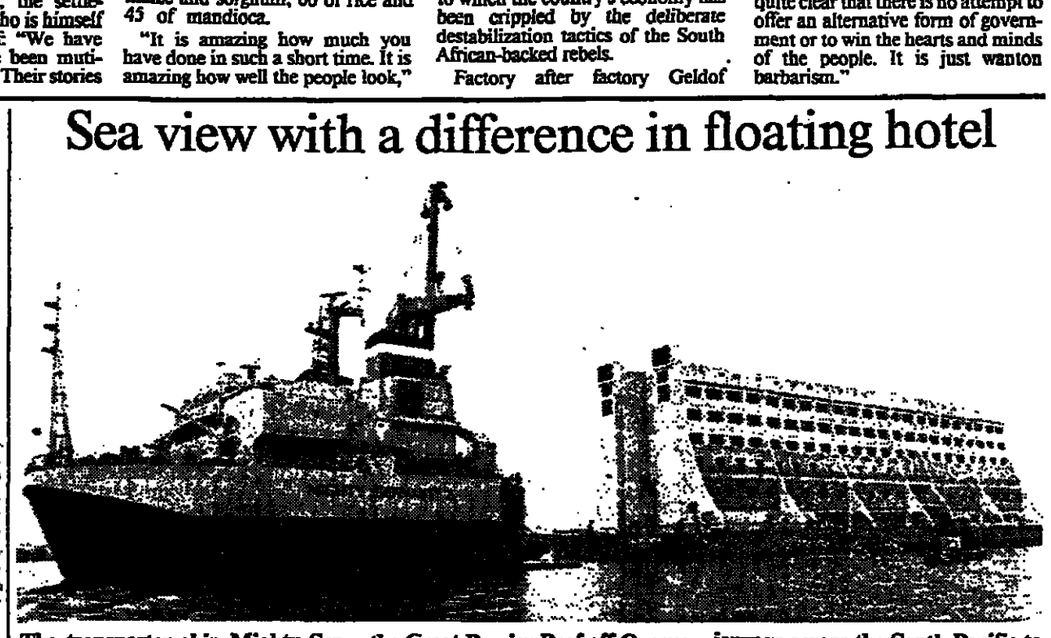
As violence continued, Mr Avraham Sharir, the Minister of Tourism, complained that reporting of the disturbances in foreign newspapers was endangering Israel's Christmas holiday trade. He criticized the media for over-reacting.

In an effort to calm the mood, senior army officers yesterday toured the West Bank, visiting Arab leaders and drawing attention to Israeli welfare and education projects.

But Mr Yossi Sarid, a Knesset member for the Citizen's Right Movement, said yesterday: "This is civil insurrection. There is an increasing hold of the population over the camps. Israel has lost control in some of them."

Professor Yehoshua Porat, of the Hebrew University, said the disturbances were very different from those in the past because they were public mass actions, not secret operations by terrorist cells.

Sea view with a difference in floating hotel



The transporter ship Mighty Servant 2's lower deck being submerged at Singapore in order to take on a 12,000-tonne floating hotel, which will eventually provide accommodation for tourists visiting the Great Barrier Reef off Queensland in Australia. After the hotel loading was completed, the water was pumped out and the transporter ship's lower deck resurfaced. The ship was being prepared for its journey across the South Pacific to Australia. When it reaches the Great Barrier Reef, the hotel, which has 200 rooms, is to serve as the Four Seasons Barrier Reef Resort.

Problem of Belgium's language divide

Socialist electoral gains signal end to long days of power for Martens

From Richard Owen, Brussels

Despite the election night claim by Dr Wilfried Martens, the Belgian Prime Minister, that his centre-right coalition could continue to govern with a knife-edge majority, it became increasingly clear yesterday, the day after the poll, that Dr Martens's days in power may well be numbered.

The consensus among Belgian commentators was that, after six years of stability, a Belgian government had once again fallen victim to the country's apparently insoluble language division.

King Baudouin yesterday formally accepted Dr Martens's resignation and appointed him to head a caretaker administration. But it is not yet clear who the King will invite to try to form a new coalition, a key decision which could change Belgium's political future, especially if one of the Socialist leaders, such as Mr Willy Claes, is summoned to the palace.

Post-election manoeuvring will take several weeks. But striking gains by the Socialists, especially in the French-speaking region of Wallonia in the south, mean that the eventual coalition will almost certainly include Socialist ministers and may even be Socialist-led, putting a left-wing Prime Minister into office and ending Mr Martens's domination of Belgian affairs since 1979.

Some observers suggested yesterday that the electoral gains of the Socialists could presage a wider swing of the pendulum in Europe as a whole, with centre and right-wing candidates losing ground to the left in elections in West Germany and France in the first half of next year.

On Sunday night, as the results came through, there was much singing of the "Red Flag" over celebratory glasses of beer in workers' bars in Wallonian towns like Liège and Charleroi.

On the other hand, the French-speaking Socialists gained in Wallonia partly because of francophone dissatisfaction with the Martens Government over its handling of the bitterly divisive language issue, a factor perculiar to Belgium.

In the 212-seat Parliament the French-speaking Socialists (PS) have 41 seats, a gain of six, with their Flemish counterparts, the SP, holding their ground in Flanders and returning to Parliament with 32 seats. The two together form the biggest political bloc.

The Flemish Christian Democrats (CVP) of Dr Martens received only 43 seats, a loss of six, while their French-speaking equivalents, the Social Christian Party (PSC), lost one seat, dropping to 19.

The Christian Democrats' Liberal allies in the outgoing coalition held their ground, with the Flemish Liberals (PVV), winning 25 seats, a gain of three, compensating for the loss of two seats by the French-speaking Liberals (PRL), who have 22.

Together the Christian Democrats and Liberals command 108 seats in Parliament, compared to 115 after the last election two years ago. This slim majority would mean a very fragile administration in a country which has become used to the relative stability of the Martens era. A grand coalition of Socialists and Christian Democrats, on the other hand, would have a convincing majority, provided it could agree on a common platform.

The election was precipitated by a local language dispute involving a French-speaking mayor, Mr Jose Happart, who refused to speak Flemish (Dutch) even though the cluster of villages he governs — Les Fourons — is in a Flemish province

This caused an irreconcilable conflict at the top within the ruling coalition when French-speaking and Flemish-speaking politicians and ministers took sides over the Happart affair.

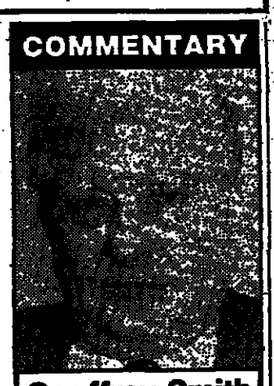
It remains to be seen whether the new Government will include the Liberals as well as the Christian Democrats and Socialists. The Flemish Liberals, in particular, take a tough stand in favour of tax cuts and against welfare spending which the two Socialist parties would find difficult to accept.

If the Liberals do leave the Government, one of the main casualties will be the Minister of Defence, Mr François Xavier de Donnea, who has guided Belgian defence policy during a difficult period beginning with the controversial deployment of Nato missiles and ending with their planned abolition as part of the new INF Treaty.

Official final distribution of seats. (Figures in brackets refer to last election in 1985 — 107 seats required for absolute majority).

PARTY	SEATS	
Outgoing coalition government:		
Christian People's Party (CVP) - Dutch	43	(49)
Social Christian Party (PSC) - French	19	(20)
Liberal Reform Party (PRL) - French	23	(24)
Freedom and Progress Party (PVV) - Dutch	25	(22)
Total number of seats	110	(115)
Opposition		
Socialist Party (PS) - French	40	(35)
Socialist Party (SP) - Dutch	32	(32)
Volksunie - Dutch regional	16	(16)
Ecolo - French ecologists	3	(5)
Agalev - Dutch ecologists	6	(4)
Others	5	(5)
Total	102	(97)

COMMENTARY



Geoffrey Smith

How far are we now dealing with a very different Soviet Union from the forbidding adversary of the past 40 years? That was the question I kept asking myself during my visit last week with a small group of British journalists.

The most obvious change is in the treatment of the United States. Not only were Mr Mikhail Gorbachov's exploits in Washington given the full treatment on television. But there too was Mr Reagan, working his smiling magic on the Soviet people as he has done for years on his own countrymen.

The other striking development is the frankness with which a number of people are now prepared to speak.

The KGB no longer seem to be the thought police in the old way. But one should not exaggerate this point. This is still a society ruled by fear, only now it is a more subtle fear. There is more often these days the oppression of hidden harassment, the threat of losing a job or the expected promotion. There is still a reluctance to speak out of turn.

We had a round table meeting with nine senior Soviet journalists which was in its way depressingly revealing. All of them maintained that the elimination of all nuclear weapons would not only be desirable, but would be practicable within a measurable period of time. Not a whisper of scepticism could we extract from any of them.

The inefficiency is all-pervasive

Was this because none of them was prepared to say, perhaps not even to let himself think, on Thursday anything contrary to what Mr Gorbachov had said on the White House lawn on Tuesday?

There are exceptions to this stultifying refusal to throw off the old constraints. But I left the Soviet Union with a strong sense of the limitations of *glasnost*.

The Soviet Union is plagued by economic problems, which is hardly surprising. It is impossible to be in the country for even a short while without being struck by the pervasive atmosphere of inefficiency.

Perhaps the most startling example was to find still on display at an airport bookstall in Tbilisi, the capital of Georgia, a booklet by Boris Yeltsin, the former Moscow party boss, entitled *Restructuring to be stepped up*. The unfortunate Mr Yeltsin has been forced to step down. All pressure for publication of his controversial October speech to the Central Committee has been resisted.

Yet here was this booklet with riveting and perceptive criticisms of the implementation of *glasnost* which may well have formed the basis of that fatal speech. Presumably nobody had thought to remove it from display. Or nobody had done so because nobody had been ordered to do so.

Glasnost stops at daring thoughts

***Glasnost* is a means of rooting out inefficiency. It places the press in the role of problem-solvers, hounding incompetent bureaucrats.**

It is also designed to encourage a greater readiness among Soviet people to think for themselves. It is impossible to run a successful, sophisticated, modern economy in a society where most people are unwilling to exercise judgment and accept responsibility.

But even under *glasnost* criticism seems to be meant to go only up to a certain level. People are encouraged to think for themselves, but not too dangerously.

The other limitation on *glasnost* is one of support. We were told that after the initial enthusiasm the public attitude was now: "Well, what next?" They were waiting to see what had been changed as a result of all the stories they had been reading.

At the same time there is resistance within the bureaucracy. "We do not need *perestroika* here," one of the leading provincial party bosses remarked in private conversation a little while ago.

To make matters worse, from the standpoint of the average bureaucrat, *glasnost* is being used by the highest officials as an instrument for keeping medium and lower ranking officials up to scratch. Yet their positive support for the new system is required to overcome public scepticism in a country which has never had any tradition of democracy or therefore of acceptable public criticism.

Reagan court nominee praised

From Christopher Thomas, Washington

Judge Anthony Kennedy, the third nominee President Reagan has submitted in the past three months for the nine-member Supreme Court, was praised by Democrats and moderate Republicans on the first day of hearings by the Senate judiciary committee yesterday, leaving little doubt that he will be confirmed.

The critical importance of his position was illustrated yesterday as the court, which has operated with only eight members since the retirement last June of Justice Lewis Powell, a moderate, divided in a long-awaited decision affecting abortion rights.

The justices voted four to four, leaving intact a lower court ruling that struck down an Illinois law placing restrictions on minors seeking abortions. Had the Supreme Court overturned the lower court ruling, it would have set a national precedent, leading to widespread curbs on abortions

The ultra-conservatism of Judge Robert Bork and the marijuana-smoking admission of Judge Douglas Ginsburg killed the nominations of President Reagan's first two choices for the Supreme Court. It has long been Mr Reagan's objective to give the court a distinct push to the ideological right, which he had hoped would lead to the reintroduction of anti-abortion laws.

Senator Joseph Biden, the Democratic chairman of the judiciary committee, said at the outset of hearings that almost every committee member looked favourably on Judge Kennedy's nomination.

The judge, aged 51, married with two grown-up children, has sat on the 9th US Circuit Court of Appeals for 12 years and has a reputation for moderate conservatism and judicial restraint.

Senator Pete Wilson, a California Republican, said in introducing Judge Kennedy that the nominee had been a brilliant student at Stanford University and had completed his senior year at the London School of Economics. He noted that the judge had shown particular concern for the rights of crime victims.

The most controversial question about Judge Kennedy concerns his membership of clubs that barred women.

The National Organization for Women accused him of being a "sexist" because of his ruling against women plaintiffs in a big pay equity case, and for his membership, until recently, of discriminatory private clubs. Judge Kennedy, responding recently to a committee questionnaire, said he did not feel the clubs' exclusionary policies were invidious because they were not intended to cause harm.

Nigeria lukewarm over Thatcher trip

From Susan MacDonald, Lagos

The announcement that Mrs Thatcher will visit Nigeria in January has not filled Nigerians with delight. Despite a widespread sneaking admiration for the Prime Minister, academics and left-wing intellectuals are calling for the visit to be cancelled.

Government sources believe that Mrs Thatcher has shown no great interest in Africa and refer to what they see as Britain's less-than-solid support for Nigeria's efforts to redress its serious economic situation — an accusation denied by the British High Commission here.

The visit, on January 7 and 8, will follow a two-day visit to Kenya. This will be Mrs Thatcher's first visit to Africa — apart from attending the Lusaka Commonwealth summit — and the first visit to Nigeria by a British Prime Minister since the 1960s.

There was initial confusion over whether the visit would go ahead at all, apparently because the Nigerians were upset that they were not consulted about it during the Vancouver Commonwealth summit.

Relations between Britain and Nigeria have slowly improved since the low ebb of the Dikko affair in 1984. Since General Ibrahim Babangida seized power in 1985, there have been several ministerial visits, but important differences remain for the Nigerians over South Africa. The press here is remarking that it would be futile to hold talks on South Africa when no argument is likely to change the Prime Minister's anti-sanctions position.

In what are described as "family quarrels" by both sides, Nigeria feels it should receive special support from Britain. Nigerians cite a disparity between the British and French roles in Africa.

"They would rather sit on the fence until they see things are going well and then come down and give us a pat on the back," one Nigerian diplomat said. The French presence in Africa is being felt in non-francophone countries, including Nigeria, in commerce and trade.

Nigeria wants more support for the structural adjustment programme, set up last year with IMF and World Bank approval, and for President Babangida's uphill task of returning the country to civilian rule by 1992.

At present there is little sign that the economy is actually on an upward turn. The budget, due at the end of this month, is expected to include price rises for transport and services.

Retailers try to make coffee China's cup of tea

From Robert Grieves
Peking

For two days last month, pretty Chinese girls in Western-style suits startled regular customers at seven state-run grocery stores in Shanghai by greeting them at the door with winning smiles and piping hot cups of coffee.

The "Miss Maxcafe" coffee girls, selected by their fellow workers as the most attractive in their respective shops, were unusual sights in sober, tea-drinking China. So was the reason for their cheerful bonhomie: a sales promotion to acquaint Chinese consumers with Maxcafe instant coffee.

Such promotions were unheard of in the People's Republic, but may become more common as the new Chinese mania for foreign-brand name products gathers momentum. Last year in Shanghai, for example, Hong Kong cosmetic companies held exhibitions to show how foreign beauty products could improve the appearances of local girls.

Most Chinese drinkers of coffee — and they are still a minority — know just one brand of instant: Nescafé. The Shanghai promotion was the first salvo in Maxcafe's assault on the Nescafé market.

Earlier this month, a commentary on the coffee girls that appeared in Shanghai's *Wen Hui Bao* newspaper deplored the fact that foreign goods had become much sought-after by the Chinese.

"In foreign countries instant coffee could not be counted as the best of drinks," the commentary said.

The newspaper went on to note the flourishing business being done here by Pepsi-Cola and Coca-Cola. Coke appears to be winning the market war against Pepsi, which has proved more popular in the Soviet Union. The Coke logo can be found everywhere in Peking (its Chinese characters literally mean "Can happy, mouth happy").

Across China, Mickey Mouse (Mi Lao Shu) and Donald Duck (Tang Laoya) are used by competing Chinese companies to sell everything from soft drinks to washing machines, while the Kentucky Fried Chicken outlet near Mao's mausoleum in Peking serves more chicken and beer to Chinese customers than to foreigners.

Higher standards.

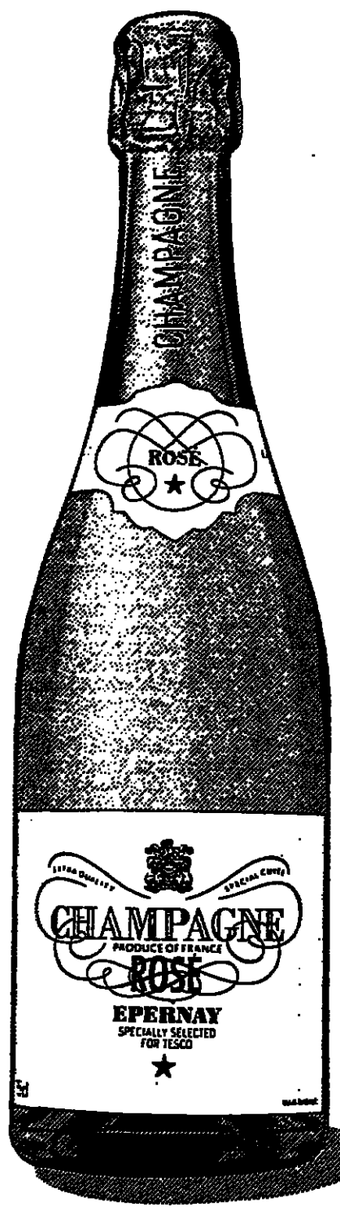
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Premier Cru
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Tesco Champagne Brut
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Lower prices.



Internal conflict sows seeds of defeat for Korean opposition

Rift persists as dissident quits contest

From Gavin Bell, Seoul

Another initiative to present a united opposition front in the South Korean presidential election tomorrow collapsed yesterday.

Mr Paek Ki Wan, a prominent dissident supported by radical students, gave up his attempts to unite the main opposition leaders, Mr Kim Young Sam and Mr Kim Dae Jung, and announced he was withdrawing his candidature to prevent splitting the opposition vote further.

Mr Kim Young Sam promptly called on Mr Kim Dae Jung to "make a patriotic decision" to quit the race, and provide a better guarantee for democracy and an end to military rule.

Mr Kim Dae Jung's consistent view has been that it is for the people to decide who should represent them. "You cannot force the candidates themselves to decide," he told foreign correspondents recently.

He was willing, on a reciprocal basis, to withdraw if it became clear he had less *popular support* than Mr Kim Young Sam. Barely pausing for breath, he added: "I am absolutely confident that I am the frontrunner."

The opposition has come a long way since winning its battle for democracy last summer – most of it sideways.

Instead of savouring the prospect of almost certain victory in tomorrow's election, it is embroiled in an internal conflict which may presage its defeat.

Had the two Kims fulfilled a mutual pledge last July to agree on a single candidate, there seems little doubt that popular acclaim would have swept one of them into the presidential mansion by a large majority.

On the eve of the poll, however, both remain firmly committed to rival bids for power, thereby considerably improving the prospects of Mr Roh Tae Woo of the ruling Democratic Justice Party. The latest estimate is that the electorate is split fairly evenly between the three, with about 20 per cent undecided.

Opposition notables have been trying for weeks to bring the two Kims together under one banner. Students are still staging demonstrations outside their respective party headquarters. Some have shaved their heads as a sign of protest, and one burned himself to death. Intermediaries arranged two meetings between them, and church leaders have been active behind the scenes, but all to no avail.

Even Mr Roh took the extraordinary step on Saturday of challenging his opponents to put up a single candidate, to enable the victor to receive a clear mandate. Cynics argue Mr Roh was well aware his challenge was unlikely to be accepted.

There is little to choose between the policies of the two Kims, reflecting the narrow political spectrum of this traditionally conservative and fiercely anti-communist country.



Mr Kim Dae Jung releasing a dove at a South Korean election rally for his Party for Peace and Democracy yesterday.

Rather the differences lie in their origins and personalities. Mr Kim Dae Jung, a veteran dissident harshly persecuted by successive authoritarian regimes, is by far the more charismatic. A native of the relatively poor province of South Cholla, his dramatic oratory appeals to blue-collar workers and farmers who have not shared the benefits of South Korea's booming economy, as well as to students and vaguely "progressive" intellectuals.

Mr Kim Young Sam also suffered oppression by military rulers, but emerged with a moderate image which has won favour among the burgeoning middle class. He hails from the more affluent province of South Kyongsang, and chronic antipathy between the neighbouring regions has sharpened the division in the opposition

● **Minister resigns:** Mr Lee Kyu Ho, the Minister of Construction, resigned yesterday after making controversial remarks about violence during the election campaign.

In a private discussion last week, he strongly denounced attacks against Mr Roh Tae Woo at a rally in the southern city of Chonju, and said that those responsible should be punished if the party was returned to power.

The opposition protested that Mr Lee's outspoken comments constituted an illegal attempt to influence the vote.

Aquino ruffles Asean calm on US bases issue

From Humphrey Hawksley, Manila

President Aquino of the Philippines drew an angry response from delegates at the Association of South-East Nations summit here yesterday when she tried to encourage them to acknowledge publicly the importance of US military bases here.

Disregarding an unwritten agreement to omit the controversial issue from the talks involving the six non-communist heads of state in the region, Mrs Aquino said that the Philippines – like other Asean countries – had felt a strong responsibility for maintaining peace and stability in the area.

In a veiled reference to the US military presence, she went on to say: "The Philippine factor is said to have contributed to the securing of airspace and sea lanes that are vital to the continued economic stability and growth of our neighbours in South-East Asia."

The speech annoyed some delegates – particularly Indonesia – which believes it is capable of looking after its own security. But diplomatic observers say Mrs Aquino was playing the opening hand in a bigger game. Negotiations with the US start next year on renewing the authorization for the bases, but Mrs Aquino is faced with growing nationalist and left-wing opposition to the American presence.

The Philippines Foreign Secretary, Mr Raul Manglapus, toured Asean countries last month looking in vain for support for a US idea that Asean should take more of a collective responsibility for the bases. He was able to report little success.

The US bases, together with the Soviet military bases in Vietnam, are considered the main obstacle to Asean's plan to make South-East Asia a neutral and nuclear-free zone. The smaller or more vulnerable states, like Singapore, the Philippines and Thailand, have spoken more pragmatically, with Singapore's Prime Minister, Mr Lee Kuan Yew, saying he does not believe the plan is practical.

General Prem Tinsulanonda, the Thai Prime Minister, agreed, adding that "major-power rivalry" involving the United States, Soviet Union, Japan and China was bound to delay the realization of Zopfan, the acronym for the envisaged Zone of Peace, Freedom and Neutrality.

"We must make adjustments through time in accordance with the prevailing reality," he said. "without losing sight of our committed objective." The general also made reference to the presence of Vietnamese troops in Cambodia as a continuing cause of instability in the region.

Indonesia and Malaysia are pressing for a swifter implementation of the Zopfan plan. Drafts of the final communiqué – known as the Manila Declaration – are being freely circulated around the city, and the seventh draft made known late last night showed a surprising unity among the six governments. It states that Asean will intensify its efforts towards an early realization of Zopfan in consultation with other countries.

If that draft is approved, it will indicate a victory on the Zopfan principle for Indonesia and Malaysia. If it is toned down it will be a political and prestigious victory for Asean's newest and most inexperienced leader, Mrs Aquino.

One important achievement already for Mrs Aquino is the fact that the summit went ahead at all. The hotel and conference centre have been cordoned off by thousands of troops, and warships *from the Philippines*, Indonesia and Malaysia are patrolling Manila Bay. As the six leaders gave their opening addresses, military helicopters were on standby in case of attack.

There have been fears that one of the many opposition groups in the Philippines might disrupt the summit, or that a more professional terrorist group might have slipped into the country.

Mr Lee of Singapore made no secret of the concern in his opening address. He said if Asean heads of government had been guided by their security services they would not be in Manila. The lead, he said, came from President Suharto of Indonesia, who Mr Lee said, "wanted to show united Asean support for your (Mrs Aquino's) Government ... when there were attempts to destabilize (it)".

The support shown for Mrs Aquino's fragile administration is perhaps an indication of the main factor which binds the Asean grouping together. The summit's significance lies not so much in the low-level trade agreements which have been discussed, or the very long-term plans for peace and neutrality, but more in the fact that the anti-communist grouping wants to balance the influence of Indo-China in the Asia-Pacific region.

Woman in plane mystery flown to South Korea

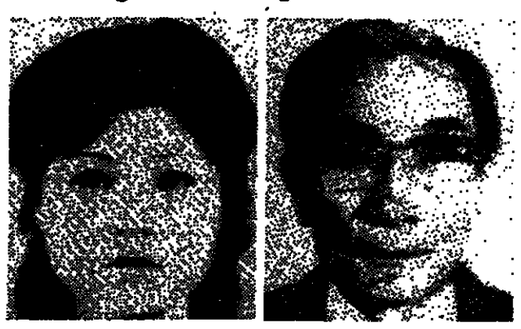
From David Watts, Tokyo

The mysterious woman believed to be at the centre of the disappearance of the Korean airliner over the Andaman Sea was expected in South Korea early today from Bahrain.

The woman, travelling on a forged Japanese passport in the name of Miss Mayumi Hachiya, is the only possible living link to the disappearance of the 115 people on board Korean Air Lines Flight 858 since it disappeared on November 29 between Abu Dhabi and its next stop in Bangkok. She and her travelling companion got off the plane at Abu Dhabi and went on to Bahrain.

The woman will now undergo further questioning by South Korean authorities in addition to that by Japanese and Bahrain investigators. So far she has claimed to be of Chinese descent and living in Macao where her travelling companion, Mr Shinichi Hachiya, allegedly hired her as a home help.

The mystery was further complicated late last week when an Arabic speaker telephoned a news agency in Beirut, claiming to speak for the "Friends of Mayumi Hachiya" and threatening retaliation against the Bahrain Government if it complied with requests for the woman's extradition.



Mayumi Hachiya and her dead partner, Shinichi Hachiya.

That call probably accounted for the heavy security surrounding the Korean Air Lines DC10 that flew to Bahrain on Sunday to pick up the woman. Although the caller claimed that there was no connection between the woman and the aircraft's disappearance, it strengthened suspicions that there might be a connection with the Japanese Red Army extremists, most of whom are in Lebanon.

Mr Hachiya took a poison capsule after immigration officials tried to question the pair. At first it was thought that both had taken poison, but reports in the Japanese press speculate that the woman, aged 27, was the leader and instructed Mr Hachiya to take a capsule and then took only a token amount of poison or none at all.

Even before attempting to board the flight, the couple were under observation by South Korean diplomats. They were visited in their hotel after arriving from Belgrade, Baghdad and Abu Dhabi by a South Korean Embassy official.

It is now clear that the couple's intinerary before then had included a visit to Vienna and then on to Belgrade, where they stayed at the Hotel Metropole, according to staff, from November 23 to 28. They were visited in the hotel by three men of Asian appearance who seemed to be wearing some kind of uniforms. Hotel staff say they arrived from Vienna with a considerable amount of luggage, but left on November 28 for the flight to Baghdad with only hand baggage. Yugoslavia is reported to be the source of some weaponry going to Libya and North Korea.

Scandal in Russia over Afghan war's disabled veterans

From Christopher Walker, Moscow

The failure of the Washington summit to achieve any breakthrough on Afghanistan has coincided with the most damning article yet to appear in Moscow about the Kremlin's failure to provide adequate care for tens of thousands of Soviet soldiers injured and disabled in the war.

The broadside in the weekly *Moscow News*, the most progressive Soviet paper, contained scathing first-hand accounts of how antiquated medical technology in the provision of artificial limbs has not progressed since the Second World War.

Its publication was the latest example of the growing clamour inside the country for the real suffering and heroism of Soviet troops in Afghanistan to be properly recognized by a public which since the invasion in December, 1979, has often chosen to ignore many ugly truths about the conflict.

Moscow News drew attention to the plight of disabled war veterans, many of whom have lost arms and legs. It said that they were usually left out of Soviet television accounts of heroism at the front by a force ritually described as "limited" and as performing its "internationalist" duty.

"What about those who have lost their health in Afghanistan, received their well-deserved medals and who have a tough future as a disabled person cut out for them. How much do we know about them?" the paper demanded.

It quoted Captain Mikhail Babich, chief of a medical rehabilitation centre in the Crimea "which has recently been extended to cope with Afghan veterans", as complaining about the lack of up-to-date equipment. "As I look at the most sophisticated artificial limbs in modern medical journals, I wonder why our boys have to put up with worse," he said.

One amputee, Igor Ovsyannikov, a former leader of a commando platoon, whose stumps were described as bleeding when he removed his new artificial legs after a test walk, expressed scepticism that an end to the fighting was in sight.

"Honestly, I do not know," he explained. "They are showing *dushmans* (Muslim rebels) on television laying down arms, but the number of the heavily wounded is not decreasing."

The Soviet authorities refuse to provide any official casualty figures, but one senior Western diplomat said in Kabul, the Afghan capital, this month that Soviet dead and wounded were being estimated at about 50 a day out of the total force of 115,000 men. Another Soviet journal recently carried a harrowing account of conditions in a field hospital in the country.

Moscow News, which has courageously taken the lead in the campaign for *glasnost*, asked: "Will the new wave (of war wounded) forgive our formal condolences and aid going together with antiquated crutches, wheel-chairs and protheses?"

The paper also fiercely criticised bureaucratic red tape over the pension rights being given to veterans. "Without a leg, I am not very good at running bureaucratic races," one veteran complained.

The article claimed that most of the Soviet population appeared indifferent to the problems of disabled veterans. It drew attention to the grave difficulties which face them in finding jobs and the general lack of support they receive from the community.

Diplomatic sources said the article pointed to the growing internal difficulties of a costly war which is causing increasing resentment among the ordinary population

As I found on a recent visit to Kabul, morale in the Soviet Army – faced with a continuing guerrilla campaign and serious health problems – is low. An American television team was permitted to shoot film of soldiers singing mournful songs about their high chances of returning home in "the black tulip", the nickname given to the planes which return the dead to Soviet soil.

Racial tensions fuelled mutiny by black municipal guards

Townships suspend white police chief

From Michael Hornsby, Johannesburg

A black town council, some 40 miles south of Johannesburg, has suspended without pay the white head of its municipal police force following a mutiny last Thursday by 60 black policemen under his command.

The Mayor of the Lekoa Town Council, Mr Esau Mahlatsi, has also called on the Government to set up a commission of inquiry into the causes of the revolt, in which eight policemen (all but one of them mutineers) were injured.

Lekoa Town Council administers six black townships with a total population of 350,000, located on either side of the Vaal River in southern Transvaal and northern Orange Free State.

The council's two biggest townships are Sebokeng, where the mutiny occurred, and Sharpeville, the scene of the notorious 1960 massacre of black protesters. Both supply black labour to the nearby "white" industrial towns of Vereeniging and Vanderbijlpark.

A council spokesman said yesterday that most of the 480 men in the local municipal police force had failed to report for duty since last Friday in protest at the arrest of 19 of their fellows who face possible charges of attempted murder, mutiny and malicious damage to property.

There are some 9,270 municipal police deployed in townships throughout the country. They are recruited from the local black population, but nearly always under the overall command of white officers. They are employed by the unpopular black township councils and their main task is to protect black councillors.

Derisively dubbed "Green Beans", because of their green uniforms, the municipal police are distinct from the nearly 60,000-strong national force which, however, also depends heavily on black recruits. Forty-five per cent of the country's police, SAP, is black African, Coloured (mixed-race) or Indian.

The leader of the rebel policemen, Captain Timothy Radebe, told the *Sowetan* newspaper from his hospital bed, where he is recovering from head and body injuries, that last Thursday's incident reflected a long history of animosity between white and black municipal policemen.

Captain Radebe said he had ordered his men to attend a meeting to discuss various grievances, including low pay, but the white officer in overall command, Major J.J. Bruyns, had issued a counter-order to carry out a vehicle inspection. The men ignored the white officer's order and attempted to drive to the meeting. On the way, however, they were intercepted by an anti-riot squad of the South African Police, the national force.

According to Captain Radebe, he and his men allowed themselves to be disarmed and did not fight back. As they were leaving their vehicles, the mainly white SAP unit fired tear-gas canisters and buckshot at them, and called them *kaffirs*, he alleged.

This conflicts with the SAP's account of the incident, according to which the mutinous policemen first tried to run down Major Bruyns in their vehicles and then opened fire on the riot squad, who used tear gas and buckshot only in retaliation.

Meanwhile, the Natal police yesterday reported finding the bodies of two youths and a man, all stabbed to death, and all apparently victims of the continuing internecine warfare between rival black groups in townships round *Pietermaritzburg*.

More than 200 people have died in the area so far this year in a ferocious power struggle between the United Democratic Front (UDF), a radical anti-apartheid alliance that supports the outlawed African National Congress (ANC), and the more conservative Zulu-based Inkatha organization of Chief Mangosuthu Buthelezi.

A rally that was to have been held in Cape Town last night to protest against the restriction order placed last Friday on the veteran ANC leader, Mr Govan Mbeki, was banned yesterday by the Divisional Commissioner of Police for the Western Cape, Brigadier Ronnie van der Westhuizen.

Under the restriction order, the Mr Mbeki, aged 77, may not leave the magisterial district of Port Elizabeth. He was granted special permission yesterday, however, to travel to Cape Town for a medical check-up at the Groote Schuur Hospital.

TV shock as admen go for emotional jugular

From Charles Bremner
New York

American television commercials have, by British standards, long eschewed wit, preferring the glow of sanitized romance and patriotism as the best way to hawk the country's goods and services.

There is still plenty of that. "Can you imagine how good it would feel to be regular for the rest of your life?" asks a glamorous and recently unconstipated senior citizen in one of a dozen different soft-focus campaigns for laxatives that punctuate the news broadcasts. And the old prudery is still there. Kissing couples wear wedding rings, and only this year were bras allowed to be shown on a real woman.

But there is a new type of commercial now flooding the tube. These are so long on emotion and gritty realism that they make you glad to get back to the lesser stress of plane crashes on the news or car chases on the cop shows.

The new style is full of wrenching conflict, heart attacks, car accidents or emotional drama. Shot in a grainy film with a hand-held camera and a dialogue that sounds improvised, the new *ads-verité* are aimed at grabbing an increasingly jaded audience and making sure they resist the temptation to "zap". This is the practice of flicking through the now huge array of channels as soon as a commercial appears and watching another show.

Take one example. Amid screeching tyres, a middle-aged man is run down in grisly close-up by a speeding taxi as he crosses a rain-soaked Times Square with his wife. In a rapid succession of hyper-realistic scenes, ambulance drivers scream for blood, doctors jump-start his heart, his wife sits in shock amid drama in the hospital trauma room played out by real doctors – and the man just survives.

At the end, Dupont Chemicals take the credit. The commercial, filmed by the star director Rick Levine, is supposed to reassure you that, thanks to a Dupont product, the blood transfusion was free of the Aids virus.

Dupont has another in the series that features a black basketball player who "lost both his legs to a Vietcong rocket". He is then shown overcoming adversity, thanks to his artificial limbs made of Dupont plastic.

Or take the Prudential Insurance ad that also features the emergency room. A man is being rushed into hospital in the throes of heart seizure. After recovery he walks through the streets and hugs his pregnant wife, talking about how lucky he was not to have died.

In another cardiac commercial – this time for the Hospital Corporation of America, the camera spies on a man preparing for his first hospital swim and talking about his attack. "It felt like somebody grabbed my heart and wouldn't let go," he says.

Madison Avenue hit on the idea of raw emotion in response to research that shows the customer is more likely to buy a product if his emotions are exercised.

"Creating a feeling of empathy is what it's all about," says one senior executive at Ogilvy and Mather, one of the top exponents of the genre.

Mr Stuart Agres, a director of Lowe Marshal explains it another way. "A commercial should address product benefits such as 'our detergent gets clothes whiter and softer', as well as psychological benefits such as 'our detergent will boost your esteem in the eyes of your mother-in-law'."

For example, one commercial for ATT's telephone systems shows a young secretary on the verge of nervous breakdown. Her voice quivering and her hands fidgeting, she describes how her life has been ruined

"These phones are driving me crazy," she sobs. "If I thought I could get away with it ... I'd just pick up the whole thing and throw it out the window."

Not everyone thinks the hyper-real approach works. While the feeling of eavesdropping on real life may appeal to the voyeuristic element, some of the characters and scenes are so depressing that it is difficult to imagine wanting to have anything to do with the product.

And some of the emotion is so overplayed that the result is maudlin, at least for non-Americans. An audience took this view at this year's Cannes advertising festival when it booed one of the most successful spots, a pitch for a life insurance company.

With the unpolished intimacy of a home movie, a man is shown cooing emotionally to his baby: "I love you little Jenny Katherine. I want to tell you something very, very important. Daddy got a raise."

Directed by Joe Pytka, the Jean-Luc Godard of commercial-makers, the advertisement produced a deluge of imitations by rivals and, during the first month it appeared, hospitals around America reported that "Jenny Katherine" had become the most popular name given to baby girls.

Slum riot quelled in Kenya

Nairobi (AFP) – Two people were killed and more than a dozen injured in a five-hour battle between residents of Nairobi's sprawling village of Ngomongo in the Mathare valley slum area, the Kenyan press reported yesterday.

Police arrested more than 100 other people when they moved in to quell the fighting. Four beer halls in the village were razed to the ground and many food kiosks and other property destroyed.

The fighting began after a gang attacked residents who then retaliated, police said.

Call to arms

Sydney (AFP) – M Jean-Marie Tjibaou, the Kanak leader, said he would encourage Melanesians to take up arms to defend themselves against settlers in the French territory of New Caledonia.

Beggar racket

Delhi (AFP) – An investigation was ordered into racketeers in Calcutta sending crippled children to Mecca to beg during the pilgrimage.

Deadly relic

Hanoi (AFP) – A bomb dating back to the Vietnam war exploded in Ho Chi Minh City killing eight people and wounding three, according to the *Giai Phong* newspaper.

Soares visit

Madrid – President Soares of Portugal arrived in Spain for a week-long visit aimed at improving relations within the context of the EEC.

Warships ban

Ankara (Reuter) – Foreign warships are to be banned from entering Turkish ports during holidays and outside normal working hours.

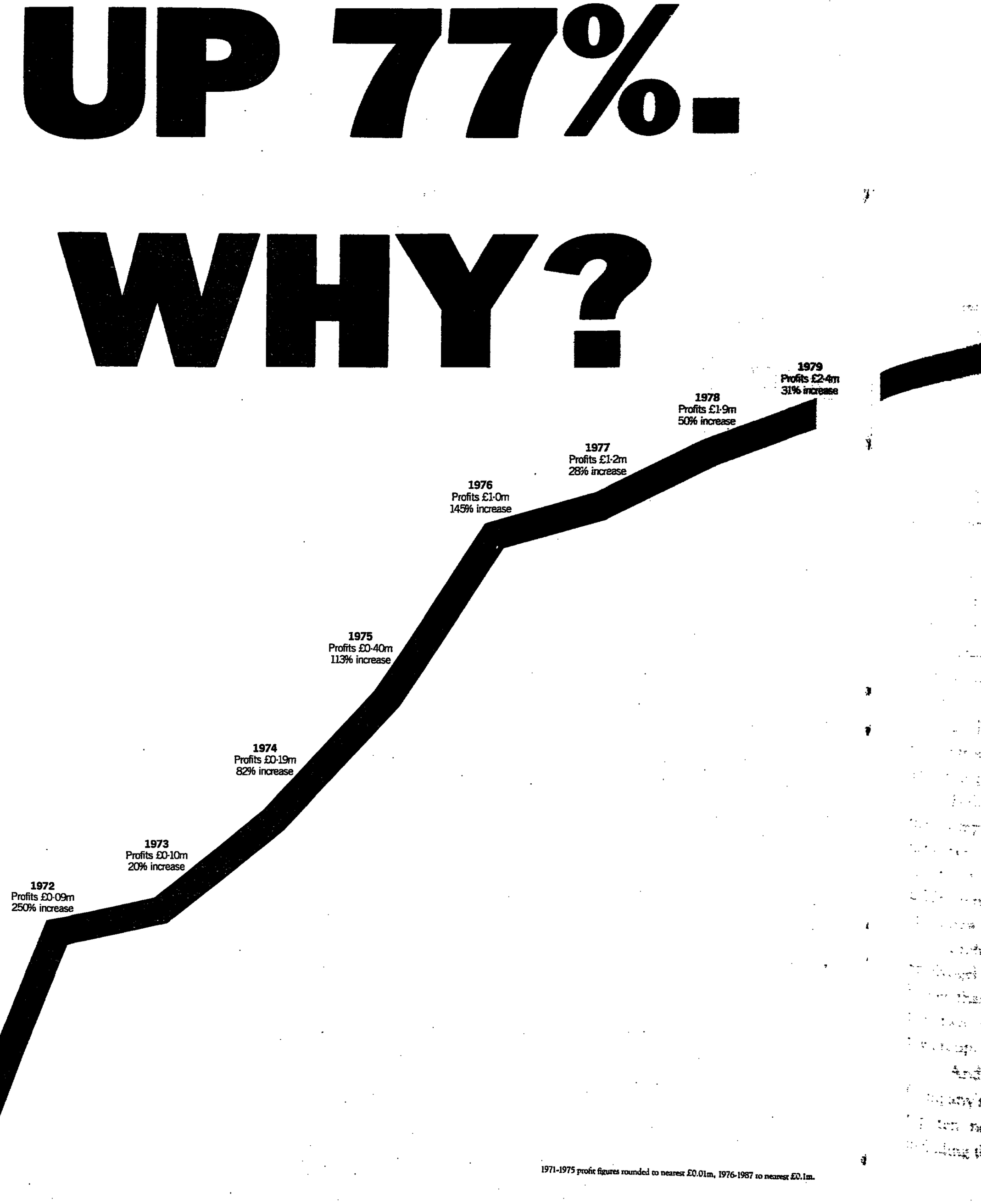
Alarming rule

Nairobi (AFP) – Hotel guests found sleeping in the daytime will be arrested and interrogated under a clampdown on crime in Kenya's Rift Valley.

Spawning ties

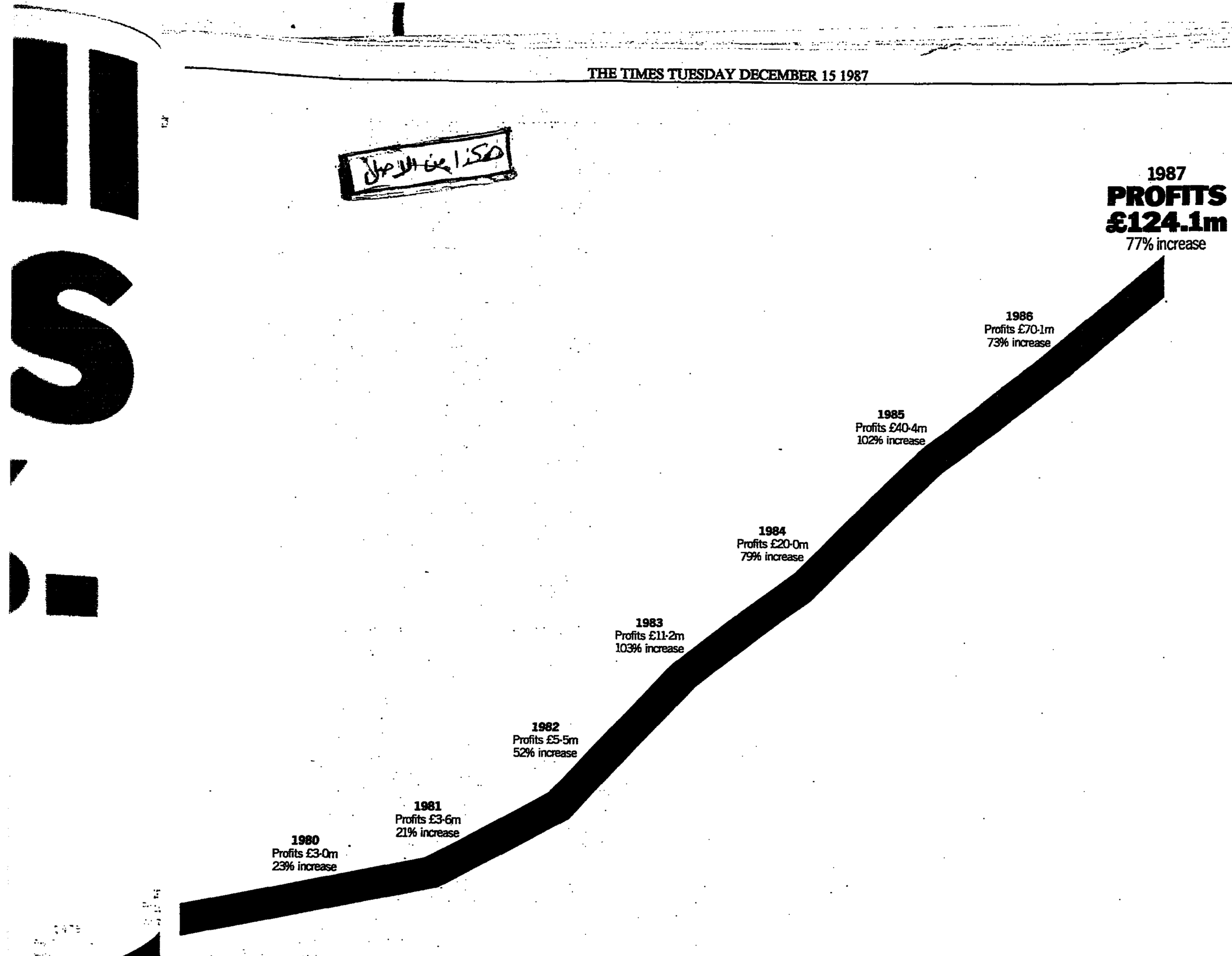
Moscow (AFP) – The Soviet Union and China signed a protocol for co-operation on fish-farming, Tass said.

SAATCHI PROFITS UP 77%. WHY?



1971-1975 profit figures rounded to nearest £0.01m, 1976-1987 to nearest £0.1m.

هكذا في الأصل



1. The Company's move into management consulting shows how new companies joining the group can develop within the organisation.

The Hay Group, a leading worldwide management consultancy, has increased its revenues by 70% and doubled its profits since joining the Company three years ago.

2. The Company has begun to benefit from operating the world's No. 1 advertising business.

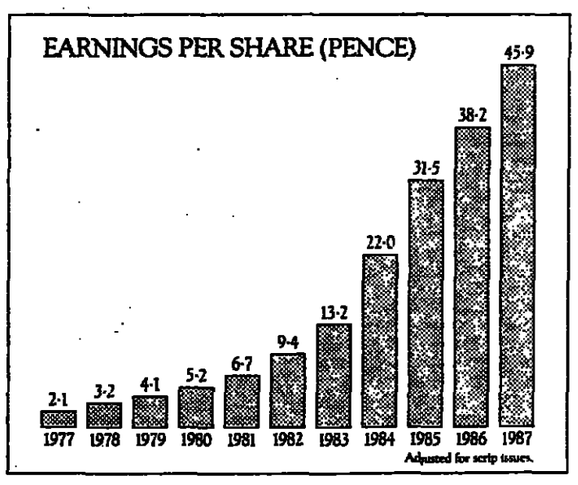
Following the reorganisation of the Company's two global advertising networks, both are now gaining new clients at a remarkable rate – over £170m in new accounts since the start of of our new financial year, ten weeks ago.

Profits at the newly-merged Backer Spielvogel Bates network are now 25% higher than they were last year before the two separate companies joined the group.

And in Britain *three* of the Company's agencies are in the industry's top ten new business chart of 1987, including the overall leader.

3. Saatchi agencies continue to defy the conventional wisdom that as you get bigger you get creatively arthritic.

The London Saatchi & Saatchi agency ranks No.1 in turnover and profits,



Over the last decade Saatchi has one of the top three Earnings per Share growth rates of any major UK company.

and yet still wins more major creative awards than any other agency in Britain.

At the 1987 Cannes Festival its international network won more awards than any other agency in the world.

4. The Company now has 14,000 employees in 57 countries worldwide, working for over 250 of the world's top 500 corporations. The Company's belief in globalisation of world markets is being shared by an increasing number of these corporations. 70 clients now work with the Company across five or more countries.

5. The Saatchi commitment to a full range of business services is also providing growth opportunities.

Over 50 clients now work with the Company across three or more service lines, including management consulting, recruitment, remuneration and pensions, litigation counselling, financial information systems, public relations, research, design, sales promotion and advertising.

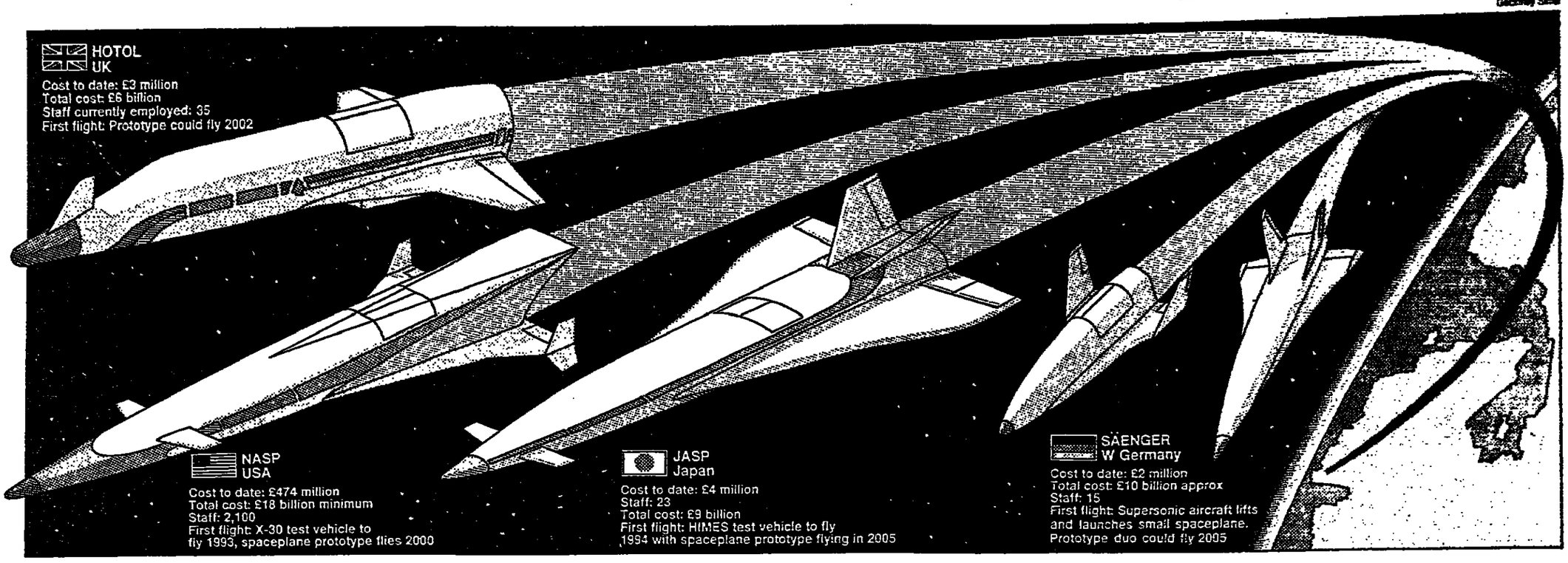
Over one-fifth of all new projects are now gained via referral from sister companies within the organisation, helping the group achieve around 25% organic profit growth in 1987.

6. In all its actions the Company's overriding aim is to give itself and its clients a sustainable competitive edge. It is guided in this by its founding maxim: It's good to be big, it's better to be good, but it's best to be both.

SAATCHI & SAATCHI COMPANY

Have we missed the plane?

Geoffrey Sims



RESEARCH AND PROSPERITY
Part 2: Spaceplanes

● Britain grew rich on the trading bounty that came in the wake of the sailing ship. In years to come the colonization of space may offer similar opportunities. Yet the Government has decided to curb the UK space budget.

● Spaceplanes, which take off and land like an ordinary aircraft, may prove the key – but millions will have to be spent on their development. Can Britain afford to lag behind?

● In the second part of our series, we look at Britain's spaceplane HOTOL – and its rivals

On the computer screen a spaceplane separates from its supersonic transport and rockets into orbit. Watching the screen is Dr Ernst Högenauer, an engineer with the Messerschmitt Bölkow-Blohm company of West Germany, who believes the futuristic aircraft is the best way to reach space cheaply.

"Man's future lies in space," he says. "It is the only place left he can go, and getting there and back cheaply will unleash development as lucrative as the sailing ship generated in the 18th and 19th centuries."

The cost of raising materials into space now costs at least £3,000 per lb and delivery is currently unreliable. Many companies have identified lucrative processes for orbiting production plants but are blocked by the lack of cheap and reliable space travel.

The spaceplane has the potential to reduce costs because it takes off and lands like an ordinary aircraft and can be serviced and re-fuelled quickly for another flight. It does not need the army of ground personnel required by rockets.

Spaceplanes also carry engines that can use oxygen from the atmosphere to burn fuel as they climb, just like any other aircraft. This means far less heavy liquid oxygen is needed on board, cutting costs and enabling more payload to be carried. But should Britain become involved – what are the rewards, and are the risks too high?

The Russians are already laying plans. Alexander Dunaev, head of Glavcosmos, the Soviet commercial space agency, told *The Times*: "In the 1990s, we estimate that space manufacturing has a potential market of more than £100 billion and we intend to capture a large share of that market."

The re-usable Russian Energiya rocket will, after 20 years of development and heavy use, approach the magic £100 per lb into orbit – the only rocket able to do so. But it is the spaceplane that will break the barrier.

In the West, the leading project is the US National Aerospaceplane (NASP), a typically hi-tech American design that pushes beyond the limits of known technology. Nearly £500 million has already been spent on research contracts and a small army of researchers.

The US spaceplane will be driven by a ramjet up to about six or seven times the speed of sound, converting to a scramjet (short for supersonic ramjet) after that. The plane will air-breathe almost all the way into orbit, requiring just a small rocket motor for the last few miles. Unfortunately, nobody has ever managed to fly a scramjet. It can be lit only at four or five times the speed of sound and cannot be tested at ground level. The Americans are building a test vehicle, the X-30, costing £1 billion to test engine ideas at hypersonic speeds.

Alan Bond, designer of Britain's HOTOL (horizontal take-off and landing) spaceplane, says: "You have to admire the Americans for tackling this vehicle. There are so many unknowns involved. It will take a mountain of cash to sort them out and just one serious problem could wipe out the scramjet benefits."

If successfully developed, however, the NASP would provide an extremely versatile vehicle capable of launching into orbit, dropping into the atmosphere and changing direction, then reaching orbit again.

Art Thomas, head of NASP research at the Marquardt Corporation in California, says: "NASP will be to Britain's HOTOL what a Formula One car is to a dragster. HOTOL sprints into orbit at maximum power and minimum cost, but NASP must be able to manoeuvre and have a substantial range as well."

Bond, of the Culham Laboratory of the UK Atomic Energy Authority, says: "The benefits our engine provides are its ability to light and fire on the ground just like any aircraft and the fact that it can be tested at ground level with cheap conventional testing facilities. This gives HOTOL a payload which could rival NASP for its weight and stay well ahead of rival spaceplanes."

At the moment, however, the British HOTOL project is in limbo. A £3 million proof-of-concept study, half funded by the Government, has been completed and Kenneth Clarke, the Minister in the Department of Trade and Industry responsible for space, is considering whether the project merits additional state funding for further development work. In the meantime, both Rolls-Royce and British Aerospace are covering the cost of keeping the research teams working.

The Government's statement in July that the UK overall space budget of about £100 million could not be increased does not bode well for further support. This figure is barely enough for the UK to pay its subscription and have a minimum involvement in the European Space Agency, and will not cover other agreed commitments such as joint space science projects with the Soviet Union.

'If we want to take a part in the new space frontier, we must get in on the ground floor. We have the key to the 21st century'
Alan Bond, designer of Britain's spaceplane

The HOTOL project will now get progressively more expensive as it moves into the building and testing of hardware. Negotiations with potential collaborators in Europe and Japan are under way and may prove to be the only means of persuading the Government to part with further cash. There is no lack of interest in HOTOL among European, Japanese and American companies.

The West German candidate is Sänger, a two-vehicle launcher with a supersonic aircraft carrying a small rocket spaceplane to high altitude and releasing it to fly on into orbit. It was derived from an idea for a rocket-powered, trans-Atlantic bomber by Eugen Sänger in 1942. Messerschmitt Bölkow-Blohm plans to extend the use of known technology rather than develop afresh, and the supersonic aircraft may eventually be capable of becoming a passenger-carrying successor to Concorde.

The West German government last week agreed to fund further development on the necessary technology "to gain a better impression of what is required". Högenauer says: "I am convinced that early next century, there will be a demand for passenger transport at five times the speed of sound."

The final serious contender is the Japanese spaceplane, a concept carrying three types of engines; an airturboramjet, a scramjet and a rocket for progressively higher speeds and altitudes. A special spaceplane committee has been set up by the Japanese Science and Technology Agency and they plan several high-speed test vehicles to develop the technology. The committee is only too aware of the massive costs and is open to possible international collaboration.

The main *raison d'être* for a spaceplane is always stated publicly to be a civilian space launcher. But that is a naive simplification. The US NASP project is 80 per cent funded by the US defence department and there are many possible military roles for a flexible spaceplane.

Britain's HOTOL spaceplane also has immense military potential, which is undoubtedly why the project has received £3 million in government funding already and why the engine design is classified. If, as now seems possible, the US and USSR agree further nuclear arms reductions, Britain's Trident missiles could be in question. But Britain makes its own warheads and HOTOL's designers could provide a very effective alternative delivery system for Britain's independent nuclear deterrent.

"We have already seen the technology spin-offs from HOTOL," says Peter Conchi, a director of British Aerospace. "Britain should get involved in a European spaceplane if only to give its workforce experience at working with these new technologies."

"It is essential for Europe to build a spaceplane," Högenauer says, "or we will lose the ability to handle such technology and end up buying American hardware."

Bond believes Britain's need is even more vital than that of other countries. "Britain still has a few engineers with hands-on experience of the technologies involved in spaceplanes. If our younger specialists do not gain that kind of experience soon, we will lose the expertise. If we want to take a part in the new space frontier, we must get in on the ground floor. HOTOL has the potential to give Europe the key to the 21st century."

This scenario was first proposed by Geoffrey Pattie, the Minister responsible for space at the Department of Trade and Industry up to the last election. Pattie grew increasingly convinced of the value of sensible long-term investments in space – one important reason why he did not retain his position. Since leaving office, he has been a vociferous supporter of increased UK spending along the lines proposed in Roy Gibson's plan for the future of Britain in space. Gibson resigned as Director of the British National Space Centre after the plan was rejected by the Government.

Keith Hindley

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Tomorrow: Advances in biotechnology have enormous potential. Can Britain fulfil it?

Ferreting out ideas

How the private sector sets its sights on British military inventions

The "ferrets" have been at work for two years now – burying themselves in some of the most secret government establishments and producing dramatic results.

They are a small, private group of scientists and engineers who are trying to introduce lateral thinking into the minds of 23,000 Ministry of Defence boffins. MoD men developing equipment for the armed services are being persuaded to consider potential commercial exploitation.

The role of the ferrets, employed by Defence Technology Enterprises (DTE), a Milton Keynes company set up in 1985 with funding from eight City institutions, is to seek out these potential commercial spin-offs. This is part of the government effort to harness the MoD's £2.4 billion annual research and development budget to benefit the wider civil economy.

The ferreting scheme is still in its infancy. So far there has been no huge breakthrough, no military invention with the potential for conversion to a household gadget.

But the potential is there, reports Bernard Herdan, DTE managing director. "There is a lot of technology lying fallow," he says. "What we're trying to do is to make these government scientists aware of what can be achieved by exploiting the technology that is already here. Lateral thinking is the answer. I've been very impressed by the fertile minds we've come across."

Here are some examples of recently exploited MoD research:

● The Royal Aircraft Establishment at Farnborough produced a composite material called rubber wood which was developed for repairing aircraft. The ferrets, however, realized it had enormous "outside" potential. Tests proved it could resist much greater impact than conventional plywoods. So DTE licensed two companies to produce the rubber wood, for use in in safety doors, vandal-proof structures, sports goods, portable temporary buildings and impact-resistant vehicle parts.

● The Chemical Defence Establishment has produced a new hypodermic needle which has been snapped up by a commercial company. The needle has a protective casing which prevents it being re-used, reducing the risk of contamination.

● The MoD's Institute of Aviation Medicine has designed a patient monitoring system which checks on the pulse-rate, heart-rate, breathing, blood-oxygen content and temperature. About 400 units are in service in 32 hospitals.

● The Royal Armaments Research and Development Establishment has made a self-sealing sea valve which allows the one-way flow of water out of boats quickly and efficiently. It has obvious potential as a safety measure for any sea-going craft.

Herdan has turned his technology-ferreting business into one of Britain's most exciting ventures. He heads eight official ferrets, 20 full-time employees and 30 consultants. So far £35 million in sales has been created from the licences issued to companies. Herdan is now working with defence contractors as well as the Ministry of Defence.

"It's a long-term business," Herdan says, "but in five years we expect to have 600 associated companies and 250 licences granted."

Michael Evans

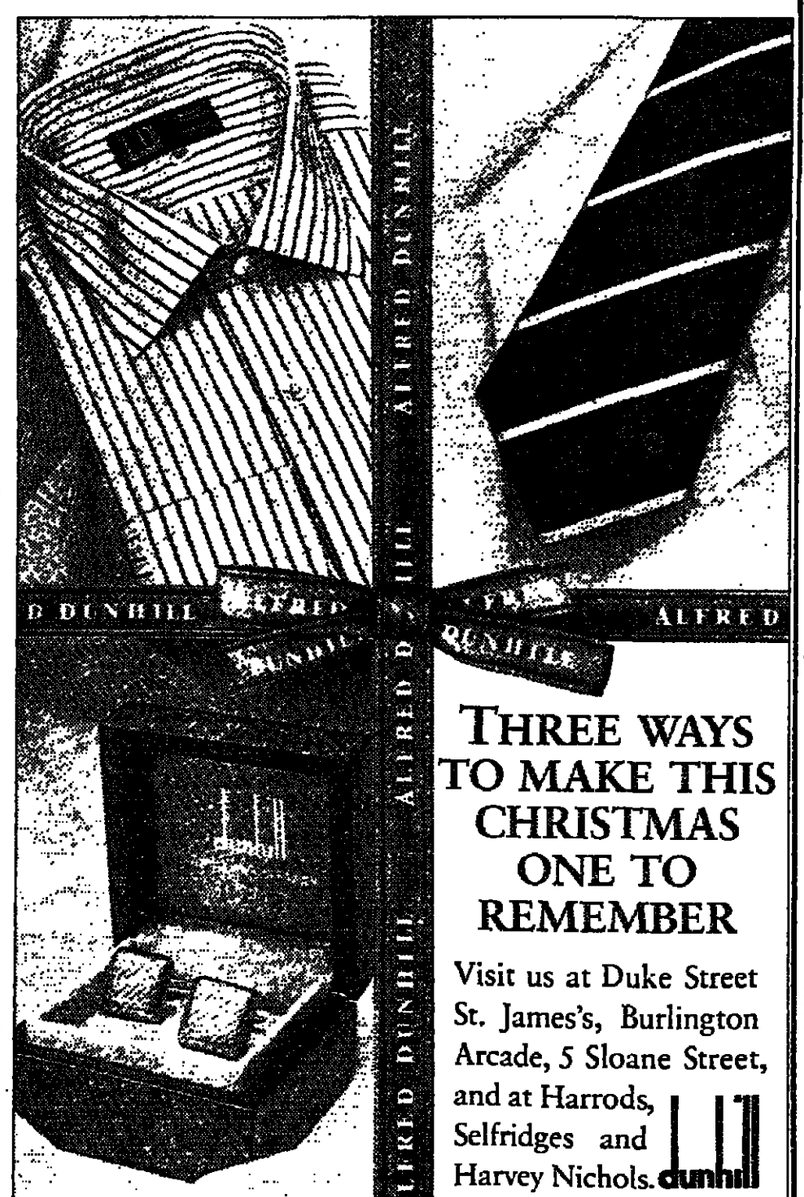
CONCISE CROSSWORD NO 1439



ACROSS
1 Coin money (6)
5 Fasten (6)
8 Concession (3)
9 Ice cream biscuits (6)
10 Shape-changing protozoa (6)
11 Sloping floor (4)
12 Similarly named man (8)
14 Crux Australis (8,5)
17 Cook's strainer (8)
19 Pen tips (4)
21 Back (6)
23 Delicate, faint (6)
24 Inflammation fluid (3)
25 Characterize (6)
26 Fisherman (6)

DOWN
2 Spanish square (5)
3 Mark Antony's lover (9)
4 Fundamental nature (7)
5 Cramp (5)
6 Pigeon noise (3)
7 Reprimands (7)
13 Mesh carrier (6,3)
15 Mountain mapping (7)
16 Portia's waiting woman (7)
18 Short and fat (5)
20 Contradict (5)
22 Glide over snow (3)

SOLUTION TO NO 1438
ACROSS: 1 Wind up 5 Tuba 8 Lethe 9 Rustler 11 Electric 13 Tool 15 Edelweiss 18 Hops 19 Protocol 22 Groupie 23 Pumps 24 Stun 25 Kirsch
DOWN: 2 Istle 3 Doe 4 Perkin Warbeck 5 Toss 6 Balbous 7 Alley 10 RNLI 12 Them 14 Wilt 15 Exploit 16 Chug 17 Class 20 Comic 21 Opera 23 Par



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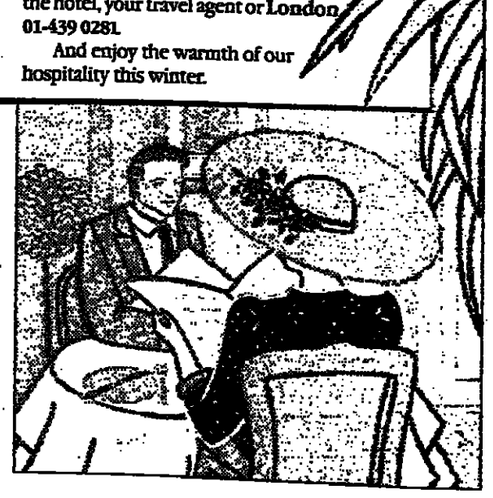
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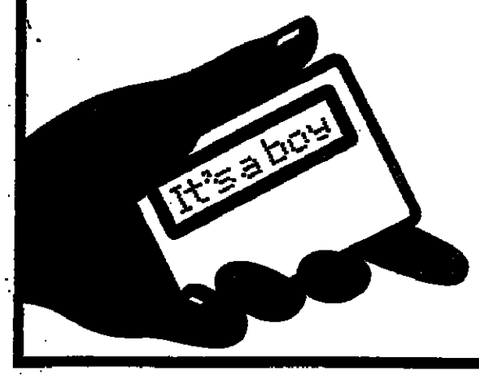
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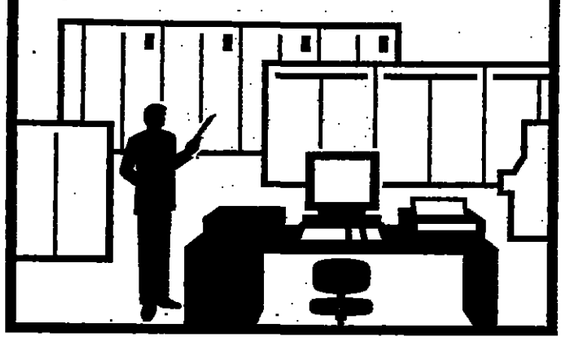
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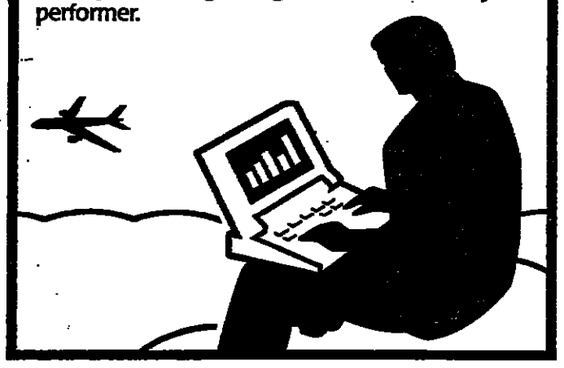
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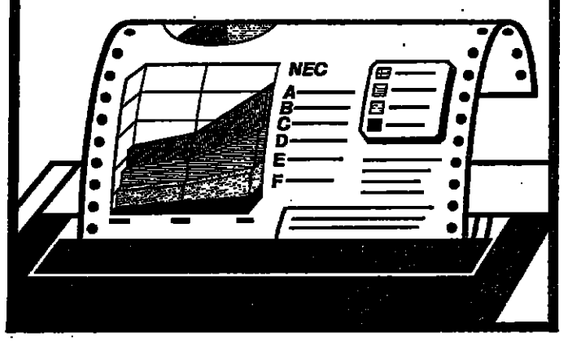
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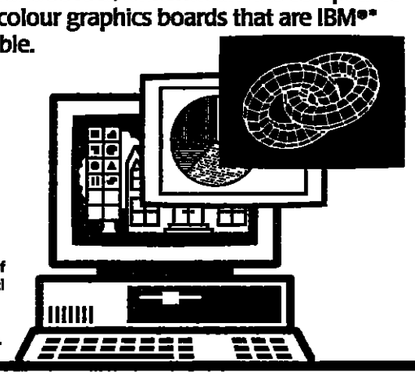
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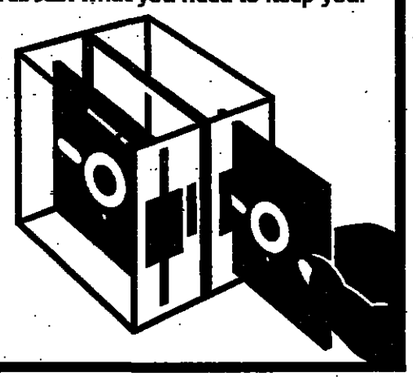


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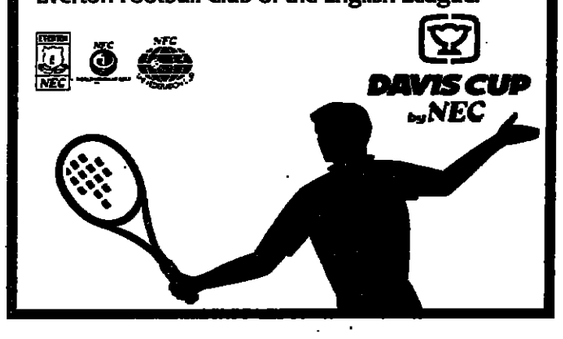
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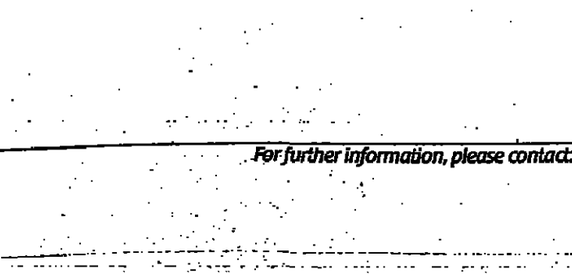
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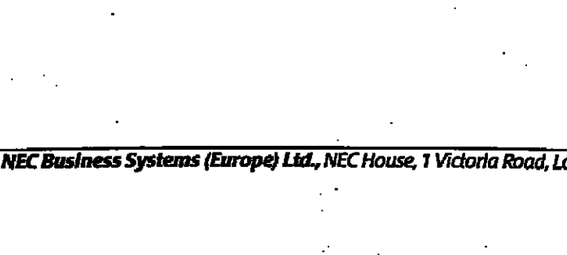
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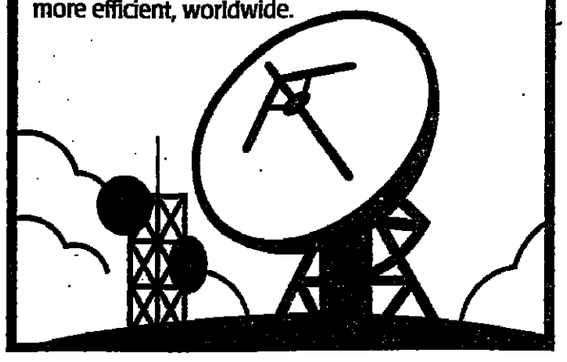
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THE TIMES DIARY

Collapse of stout party

Is it just me or is there a less than serious air hanging over the draft of the new Alliance's new constitution, which was scrutinized by the SDP national committee yesterday afternoon? Under "Transition Proposals", on page 69 of the document sent to every member of the national committee, are these immortal words: "The declaration *(yippee! it's us again pretending to be different)* shall constitute the initial policy stand of the party". Exactly who added the parenthesis is, needless to say, unclear. Meanwhile, another draft, prepared before the parties came up with their distinctly uninspired new handle, was cheekily entitled: "Constitution of the [XXXX Party]." Article One adds that it may "be known as the X and may additionally known in Wales as Plaid X". The author must now wonder who would give a New Liberal and Social Democratic Party for anything else.

Still life

A bottle of Mrs Thatcher's favourite tipple — inscribed by her on the day the INF treaty was signed last week — raised £550 for the British Red Cross when auctioned in London yesterday. The label on the bottle of 10-year-old Glenlivet malt whisky, which she donated, read "Prime Minister's Reserve" inside a similarly inscribed wooden case. At around £17 a nip at that price, I would rather have Krug.

Banker's ghost

As share prices rollercoaster, unhappy memories are haunting a recent crop of banking diploma exam failures. One question asked candidates last April what they would say to a fictional investor, one Mr Knowall, who predicted that prices would fall in 1987 to "about one half of their present levels". The Chartered Institute of Bankers examiners' report reveals that many failed the whole exam because of their answer to the question. "Almost without exception candidates disagreed with Mr Knowall's opinion . . . They may be right but few could produce any convincing reasons for their views and, in the opinion of a number of the examining team, if Mr Knowall saw the answers of most candidates, he would have been justified in his (disdainful) attitude towards professional advisers."

● **I can understand why Sir Geoffrey Howe might need a copy of *Spycatcher* around him but does he really need *two* volumes of the forbidden tome on display in his ante-room at the Commons?**

In the bag

Sussex police show neither fear nor favour in making the controversial drink-deterrent checks on motorists introduced by their Chief Constable, Roger Birch. Birch, president of the Association of Chief Police Officers, was stopped by a diligent special constable recently as he was being driven in his official car. But all was well: the driver was in the clear and the car, an unmarked Jaguar, was allowed to go on its way. The special constable did not recognize the car, its official driver or distinguished passenger.

Spy ring

Despite the bonhomie engendered by the two leaders at the summit, one British journalist was less than diplomatic when she took a phone call for a colleague that interrupted the final press conference. The caller turned out to be a man from the British embassy, anxious for a copy of the 73-page memorandum listing all the details of weapons, sites, bases and missiles in the US, USSR and Western Europe.

BARRY FANTONI



'Much simpler just to let James Anderton flog 'em'

Seasonal cheer

In the midst of this season of NHS bashing, I hate to think what William Doughty, CBI member and chairman of the North West Thames Regional Health Authority, will say when he receives the Christmas card from the authority's PR department. It depicts a hospital general manager's tatty office with an almost bare Christmas tree in the corner. On the desk is a half-eaten biscuit, a chipped tea cup and a pad on which a list of euphemisms, from "service redeployment" to "patient flow rationalization" are crossed out in favour of a single word: "Cuts".

PHS

Nigel Harris, one of the doctors petitioning for more NHS funds at Downing Street today, explains the reality of cost limits on London hospitals

Patients who pay with their health

The government has announced planned expenditure for 1988/89 (November 4), and this includes £700 million extra for hospital and community services. It is meant to sound generous and will no doubt be quoted *ad nauseam* by ministers when they are confronted by those of us who live and work in the real world of rapid and severely contracting services for patients. Some facts will put the increased expenditure in perspective, and the examples from my own hospital are similar to those of all other London university hospitals.

The taxpayer has invested £33 million in St Mary's new Queen Elizabeth the Queen Mother wing, which is to be used principally for the surgical specialities. It should have been fully operational by January 4, 1988, but this will not happen because of government underfunding. Three of the eight wards and three of the eight operating theatres, half of the intensive care beds and the day-care surgery unit will not open. What a tragic waste of precious resources is about to be inflicted upon us.

No health authority to my knowledge has ever been fully compensated for pay awards to doctors and nurses, and the inflationary costs of medical equipment. In 1987/88 the under-funding amounted to £150 million. The under-funding for pay awards in my district accounts for £1 million of its £3 million overspending, and next year will be the same or worse. The significance of these figures is shown by the fact that £350,000 will pay the salary of 35 trained nurses or cover the annual cost of running a ward.

The government answers by stating that such under-funding must be covered by efficiency savings, which all would agree is an admirable principle. However, hospitals have been engaged in these exercises for a number of years, with the result, for example, that increasing numbers of patients have had operations despite the significant reduction in bed numbers, while at the same time waiting lists were reduced. The result of this greater efficiency, which undoubtedly benefits patients, is paradoxically to increase costs because of the increase in the number of operations, especially major procedures.

Maximum efficiency has now been achieved in many districts, including my own. Thus in the past five years £7.27 million of cost improvements have been achieved in Paddington and North Kensington Health District. Part of our £3 million overspending is the result of becoming more efficient, and so we are penalized; thus, surgeons have been asked to do less expensive operations (for example, life-saving operations on heart valves and surgery on blood vessels). In addition, because of bed closures all surgical specialities will have to resort to emergency surgery only. The consequences are obvious, many of them extremely distressing for certain patients.

I have no doubt that it is inexcusable and contrary to the rules of natural justice for the government not to fund completely the pay awards of its employees in those institutions which have achieved maximum cost efficiency. Their policy is undoubtedly interfering with the clinical judgement of doctors, a grave charge indeed, but entirely justified by the facts.

Two examples will suffice. A patient has impending gangrene of the foot due to peripheral vascular disease; urgent admission is arranged for reconstruction of the diseased artery: the patient is sent home as no bed is available; a bed is found a week later, but it is too late for reconstructive surgery and an amputation has to be performed. A patient cuts his wrist and severs a major nerve which partially paralyses the hand. There is an optimum time for repairing the nerve but delayed admission allows this time to pass. The resulting surgery will be significantly inferior because of the delay.

Under-funding of the health authority is forcing it to take measures which produce these distressing cases; the medico-legal consequences are horrendous, and it is to be hoped that the warnings which have been publicized will be heeded by the government before further irreparable damage is done to patients.

Another hidden factor concerns the Chancellor's statement that a further £30 million will be provided for initiatives to reduce waiting lists. It is ludicrous and deceitful to force health authorities to reduce surgical services in the way I have described and then ask them to produce schemes to reduce waiting lists.

Earlier this year the North West Thames Regional Health Authority provided me with extra funds for additional hip replacement operations; all have been done within three months. It has agreed a further sum and I was pleased to continue the scheme. I have now been forced to cancel the agreement for reasons I mentioned earlier. For more than 10 years I have regularly carried out 250 hip replacement operations a year. I will no longer be allowed to do any of these operations.

The final insult to the dignity of the medical and nursing professions and their patients is that administrative costs are not controlled by health authorities when they produce efficiency saving schemes and make cuts to live within a dwindling budget. Sixteen per cent of my district's overspending is due to administrative costs for 1987/88, but severe cuts are to be implemented only in medical and nursing services. I would imagine the same applies to all health authorities, and even more so at the Department of Health. I would have expected the government's financial statement to say something about reducing the administrative costs of the hospital service before any cuts are made in clinical services.

Due to the closure of wards in one of my hospitals, it is becoming necessary to admit male patients to the female wards; no partition exists and no special lavatory and washing facilities are available. Patients who are already distressed by their illness are not consulted. It seems that government policy will permit such degradation of patients as long as budgets are not exceeded.

I have said enough to indicate that a confidence trick of considerable magnitude is being played by the government against the medical profession, who are as usual on the receiving end of complaints by patients for the poor service provided. The responsibility for the closure of essential hospital services and the harm being done to the patient lies with the government and those who administer our hospitals.

An indication of the government's desperation is its desire to defend the indefensible and its obsession with statistics. These do not obscure, as they are intended to, the very severe reductions in the service to patients that are occurring and more of which are planned for next year. They will not obscure the harm being done to patients, which in due course the courts will have to expose.

If and when the government becomes obsessed with patients and their needs, doctors and nurses will be able to do more effectively the work for which they have been trained. It is a doctor's duty to point out the defects and the government's responsibility is to remedy them.

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The author is consultant orthopaedic surgeon at St Mary's Hospital, London.

Ben Pimlott

Schools that do not work

Dear Mr Baker,

Last week you said in a speech that "teachers should not be expected to be surrogate parents". I'm writing to ask why, with the union dispute long over, you should expect parents to act as surrogate school teachers. My personal experience in recent months is that if we do not teach our child, he is liable to miss out altogether.

My six-year-old son attends a first-rate primary school in Covent Garden, inner London. So far this term his class has not had a regular teacher. The Inner London Education Authority advertised the vacancy in three national newspapers. Not one single qualified person applied. From week to week since half-term (when one long-staying supply teacher departed), even from day to day, the children have not known who they will face in the morning. Who they get depends on Ilea, and there have been occasions when it has been unable to send anyone at all. The end is not in sight: these kaleidoscopic arrangements are expected to continue at least until the summer.

I understand you believe in standards, and in testing and assessing seven-year-olds. My son will presumably be due for his first "test" in a few months' time, assuming that your bill goes through. Against the background of such a regime, perhaps you can explain what possible use the results may have?

The quality of supply teaching in my son's class has varied. Sometimes — as this week — it has been good, within the limits of so unfavourable a situation. At other times it has been appalling. (As an historian, you will appreciate this one. My son recently brought home an exercise book in which he had laboriously written a story abut Guy Fawkes plotting to blow up James I. The teacher had twice crossed out James and written Charles). But my main concern, like that of other parents, is not with quality but with continuity. Relating to a single teacher is the starting point, without which no progress can be made.

You may reply that it is difficult to get teachers to work in rough areas. That may be true. But Covent Garden is not rough. A bustling, entrepreneurial, up-and-coming sort of place, it provides a perfectly balanced intake of children from business, working-class and ethnic minority families, in one of the liveliest communities of central London. You may comment on the off-putting effect of a "loony left" atmosphere in London schools. Let me assure you that there is nothing loony or even left about this particular school. An ancient C of E (now Ilea-funded) establishment, it is excellently run on slightly old-fashioned lines. Teaching was disrupted last year, but by building works, never industrial action. Despite adversity, the school has flourished: a busy, preoccupied bundle of inadequate Victorian classrooms, with dedicated teachers concentrating on the three Rs, offering drama, music, trips and a chess club in their spare time.

Probably you will be critical of Ilea. You will point to the authority's failure to take account of falling rolls in secondary schools and the recent expansion among three to eight-year-olds. You will mention that teacher-pupil ratios nationally have actually fallen under this government. You will suggest that if Ilea had managed its resources better it would have taken advantage of changing demography to retrain and redeploy in favour of the primary sector. There is a complex problem here, not readily resolved. "Retraining", however, is usually a cul-de-sac: teachers are more likely to leave the profession. Moreover, your massive imposition of a rate-capped cut in budget to Ilea, announced last week, did not exactly indicate an urgent desire to ease the London teacher shortage.

Why does such a shortage exist, and why does it affect every part of the capital? As a believer in market economics, you know the answer perfectly well.

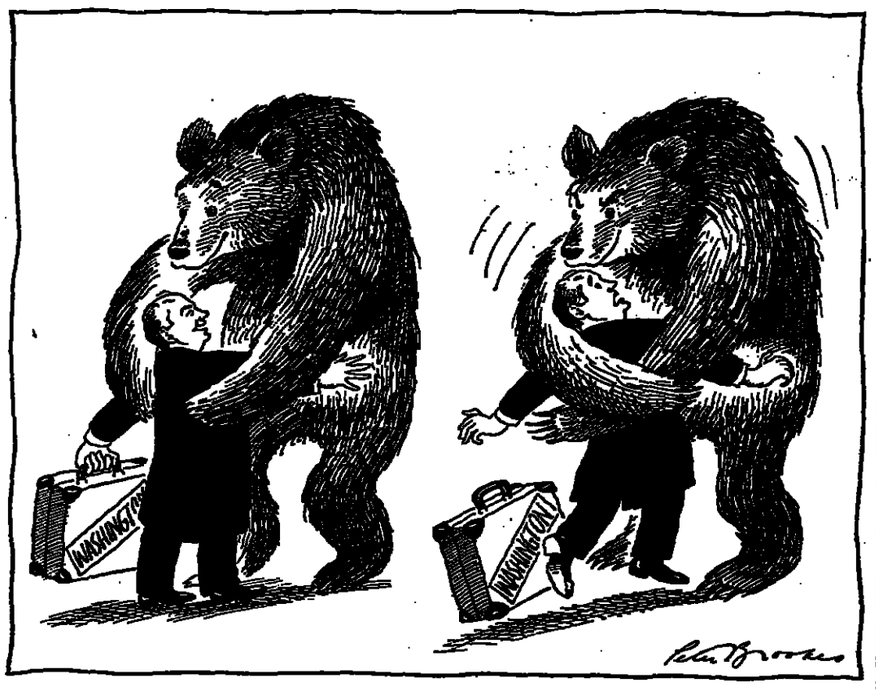
A recent survey showed that it is now virtually impossible to buy the meanest, smallest one-bedroom flat anywhere in London for less than £40,000. Yet a 22-year-old with a degree and a postgraduate qualification starts work in a London primary school at £8,814 gross. It is scarcely surprising that so many teachers spend only three or four years at London schools and then — when they can no longer stand sharing flats or living in digs — seek work elsewhere.

This economic factor is hardly new, though with soaring house prices it has become much worse. The point is rather that London education is suffering a crisis far more severe than any of the supposed problems which your bill is meant to solve.

Like all parents, I care what my child is taught and how he is taught it. Yet what matters most is that he should be taught at all. I do not see that your proposals have taken on this aspect, which affects other boroughs — Hackney and Tower Hamlets, for instance, where children are frequently sent home for lack of staff — even more severely.

You have put down your marker as a reforming Education Secretary, to be compared with R.A. Butler. Perhaps you should put your priorities in a different order. It is a straightforward requirement of education that in a normal school in normal times the children should expect to have a teacher. And it is surely unfair to parents, teachers and children alike that schools should be reduced — through whatever grand economic scheme — to the humiliating role of institutional child-minder.

Mr Nice Guy's battle



Conor Cruise O'Brien warns against taking too rosy a view of Gorbachov — after the INF agreement he may need to take a tough line in Eastern Europe to keep his enemies at bay

Whatever may have actually happened at the Washington summit, there has certainly been a drastic change in perception: specifically in the public perception of the need for an arms race — and that is a major event in itself.

This came forcibly to mind last week when I recalled a seminar on the arms race which I attended in California in 1986; the prevailing argument then was indeed that what mattered was not so much what was happening as what was perceived to be happening. Those who put forward that argument — including representatives of the Rand Corporation, etc — did so in order to *justify* America's continuing and escalating commitment to the arms race.

The public perception of the Soviet threat, it was argued, was such as to exclude not only the possibility of actually weakening America's defences but also the possibility of any *apparent* relative weakening. Overkill might not be required by the material military necessities of the situation but it was psychologically necessary, granted the public perception of the situation.

The argument from perception, which then worked in favour of the arms race, now works against it. And I feel pretty sure that the same scholars who then urged the need to submit to the public perception of things are now working hard on the need to correct the public's perception of things, particularly as regards the perceived diminution of a threat from the Soviet Union. The argument against the summit now has to run: "The Trojans did not perceive the Horse as a threat. But what was actually inside the Horse proved to be more important than Trojan perceptions of the outside of the Horse."

That last image would be likely to be received with enthusiasm, in current circumstances, by the very same circles which last year were preaching the omnipotence of perception.

As it happens, I welcome, though with reservations, the shift in public perception that has happened. It makes more sense for the people of the superpowers to be conscious of common interests, and of a specific common interest in mutually verifiable lowering of armaments, than for them to be seeing each other exclusively in terms of hostile stereotypes: Evil Empire, new Nazis.

Yet the new perception, to the extent that it is forced, is also dangerous. The American public at present perceives Mikhail Gorbachov as a nice guy. Now I am prepared to believe that Gorbachov is as nice a guy as it is possible for a general secretary of the Soviet Communist Party to be. And I don't believe that a Communist Party general secretary is necessarily a monster *ex-officio*. But I don't believe, either, that a general secretary of the Soviet Communist Party could keep up for long with American expectations of how a nice guy ought to behave.

The American man in the street will expect a nice guy not to get tough with the Poles, and other East Europeans. But Gorbachov may find, in certain circumstances, that he *has* to get tough with Poles, or cease to be general secretary. Poland is not in the Warsaw Pact as a result of the attractive manners of the Gorbachovs: it is in the Soviet system because of overwhelming Soviet power, and Soviet determination to use that power to keep it there. A general secretary of the party is probably a prisoner of that determination almost as much as Poland is.

It is in the general interest that the improved relations between the superpowers should be sustained, but if they are to be sustained the present American exuberance of goodwill will have to be gradually lowered, and expectations dampened down. George Bush, the vice-president, has been making that point, and wisely so. His chances for the presidency may depend on it.

The enemies of the treaty, on the other hand, will want expectations to be sharply raised, and then savagely dashed — and so back to the status quo of reciprocal paranoia. There is a potentially sinister congruence of perceived interest here, between Gorbachov's enemies inside the Soviet party, on the one hand, and on the other the American right, supported by sections of the "military-industrial complex".

Both lots have an interest in making trouble for Gorbachov. Reagan is not at present politically vulnerable, in this matter, except to Gorbachov. But Gorbachov *is* vulnerable, and through the discredit of Gorbachov, Reagan's recent achievement could be made to look like the betrayal that the American right (Reagan's former fans) claim it to be.

For a number of reasons, I think that East Europe may prove to be a troubled region in the coming months. Poles, Czechs and others will expect — and demand — a share in the profits and benefits of liberalization and detente. They will look for instalments of *glasnost* and *perestroika* for themselves. And it is on that ground that Gorbachov's enemies, within the Soviet Communist Party, are likely to be waiting for him.

The chief reason for Gorbachov's unpopularity with powerful people in the Soviet hierarchy is of course his assault on bureaucratic incompetence and corruption. But that aspect of his policies is overwhelmingly popular with the Soviet people (as is his success in America). On the other hand, an extension of liberalization into Eastern Europe would probably *not* be overwhelmingly popular with the Soviet people.

Relaxation of Kremlin control in that area could easily be represented as a betrayal of the vital security interests of the Soviet Union and that charge could be plausibly linked, by Gorbachov's enemies, to the theme that, in the INF treaty, the Soviets gave more to the Americans than they got in return (as is indeed the case). So to look for evidence suggesting that Gorbachov is a security risk seems the most promising line for those in the Soviet Union who, for quite different reasons, want to see an end of him.

I fear that, under these conditions, East Europe, this winter and into the spring, is likely to be a happy hunting ground for spooks, or "members of the intelligence community", if you prefer. Spooks of both American and Soviet provenance are likely to be in there with a common purpose: making trouble for Gorbachov, in conditions in which trouble is inherently probable, even without the help of spooks.

I don't suggest anything so melodramatic as a secret agreement between the CIA and the KGB to destroy Gorbachov. Top people in both organizations, and most of their agents, may be presumed (though not infallibly) to be loyal to the governments which employ them. But the profession of deception is one which, of its nature, permits rogue agents, corrupt agents and factional agents to flourish. And the services of such people are liable to be in enhanced demand, in the political aftermath of the Moscow summit. In that respect, the Orwellian incident in Moscow in which KGB men, posing as peace demonstrators, beat up Jews may have ominous significance if it is seen as an abortive effort — with support from within the KGB — to discredit Gorbachov and wreck the summit.

Mrs Thatcher praised Gorbachov warmly for his courage. She was right, both in the substance and in the timing, on the eve of the Washington summit. Gorbachov has indeed shown courage, and a certificate to that effect, from the world's most respected Conservative, must have helped to prepare the success of the summit. But at the present stage, courage in pressing ahead with reforms is not the quality which Gorbachov most urgently requires to demonstrate.

What is needed now is for Gorbachov to consolidate his authority, so that the improvement in international relations which he laboured so mightily to achieve may itself be consolidated. And in consolidating his authority, he will need to draw on all his resources of guile, patient ruthlessness, and mastery of the Byzantine ways of Soviet power. In short he will need to be not nearly so nice a guy as the Americans think him to be. But then, if he were as nice a guy as that, he wouldn't be where he is.

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***however* . . . Henry Stanhope**

Not as simple as it seams

Tomorrow's start of the final Test between Mr Michael Gatting and the Pakistan Umpires XI should have us all on our toes. Last week they managed to dwarf the East-West summit in a manner that has not been seen since Chappaquiddick 18 years ago, when Senator Edward Kennedy made man's first landing on the moon seem pretty humdrum.

My sympathies would be with the Umpires, if only I could see what makes them do it. Being a football referee is bad enough, having to dress up in shorts and run around blowing a whistle while 30,000 people hurl abuse at you. But he has to endure it only once a week — and for no more than 90 minutes at a time.

A boxing referee is in more danger, but often has his decisions ready-made for him. When one contestant is lying flat on the canvas, even my grandmother could have told them who had won. So too has an umpire at Wimbledon, who (though having to endure the discomfort of sitting atop a stepladder) simply reflects the opinions of the line judges.

A cricket umpire, however, has to dress up in a white coat like a Tesco manager and stand under a hot sun for six hours a day, perhaps for five days on the run, watching every ball being bowled.

Anyone who has ever sat in the press box at a football match will know that at the moment a goal is scored, almost everyone is looking somewhere else — admiring a blonde in the directors' box or trying to decipher his shorthand. They then have to decide who scored it and how, which is why most football reports all bear such a marked similarity.

That may be all right in the press box. But you can hardly have the referee running up to the photographers every few minutes to ask them if they had possibly seen what happened.

Still, as I say, the need for concentration on the football field is bearable. On a cricket pitch it makes such mental demands that I can never understand how people cope. There you are, standing at square leg, wondering if you'll be home in time to phone your sister in Dorking, or whether you'd better get your wife to mow the lawn again, when — "Aaaargh!" Guiltily you come to, to find half the fielding side staring triumphantly at you with outstretched arms while their strangled "How's that?" reverberates round the members' stand.

Not only do you not know whether the poor man's out or not, but you don't even understand how. Was he stumped, or run out, caught behind — or has he been dropped at first slip? If the batsman were a gentleman he would "walk," thus putting you out of your misery. But now that all cricketers are "players", there's precious little hope of that.

You could always consult your fellow umpire, except that he has been thinking about his supper or what he might buy his wife for her birthday two days hence. An alternative solution is to raise your right forefinger carefully and judge the reaction. If the batsman looks incredulous, the bowler insufferably smug and rumbles of discontent start gathering in the crowd, you can always pretend you were scratching an ear or removing a mote from your eye — then rapidly shove your hand back in your pocket.

A solution I can recommend (for Test umpires anyway) is to carry a small transistor in one's pocket, with one of those tiny ear microphones, disguised as a hearing aid. Then when Christopher Martin-Jenkins exclaims: "Oh my goodness, he must be out!" the umpire can oblige within five seconds. "Yes, he's gone," says Mr Martin-Jenkins (pleased to have been proved right). "No hesitation there from Umpire Stanhope . . ."

I speak of course from little personal experience. My own tenure at the crease was always so brief, and my reasons for departing so obvious (an instinctive desire to get myself smartly out of the way) that I was hardly in a position to demur.

At football, which I played with great enthusiasm but little skill, the pace is so fast and the pattern so fluid that one's incompetence is mercifully forgotten within a minute. In cricket, however, the crowd's attention is too sharply focused for comfort. The lonely walk to the crease, that awful exposure at it, then the still worse retreat to the echoing, cool and crespuscular pavilion, with its scent of stale sweat and cucumber, were always to me like playing the lead in *Hamlet*, unrehearsed.

The Pakistan umpires and I would have got on very well together somehow . . .

هكذا من الأصل

TIMES PAST THE TIMES

1 Pennington Street, London, E1 9XN Telephone: 01-481-4100

THE COST OF HEALTH

The National Health Service has always been a political problem for Mrs Thatcher. Recognising the political dangers, she has given it priority in public spending and has been wary of radical change ("the health service is safe with us").

But discontent with the service is now at as high a level as ever. The professional objectors make their predictable complaints. But some of those who have previously been government supporters are also unhappy. To have arrived at this point after eight years of "safety first" on the health service suggests that safety first was not a good policy.

Health care in this country is uniquely designed to maximize demand while minimizing the resources available to satisfy it. "Free" provision encourages the public to use the service without having to count the cost. At the same time the resources to provide it have to be wrung out of a grudging Treasury. Achieving the great post-war ideal of removing the "price barrier" to health has ensured that Britain spends a smaller proportion of its national income on health care than any other industrialized country.

These deficiencies do not mean there is nothing right with the NHS. Although the standard of care is more variable than ideally it should be, the service is still among the best in the world. Our doctors and medical researchers are still providing centres of excellence which are in demand from patients all over the world; our nurses are conscientious and more highly trained than many overseas. Spending on the NHS has risen by over 40 per cent in real terms since 1979 and has at least kept pace with an expanding economy. But so long as individual responsibility for how much to spend on health care is circumscribed, the Government will never win the political argument on the NHS, no matter how many statistics the Prime Minister produces.

This failure of steady growth in public spending on health to satisfy the public suggests that if more spending is needed – as it probably is – then the additional resources should come from the private sector rather than through taxation. The concept of a system in which most health care is provided "free" is too deeply embedded in the British political psyche to contemplate change within the time horizon of most politicians. But the frustration is not with the basic level of provision, but with the additional spending which many people would like to make. Britain's level of *public* expenditure on health is less out of line with that in other countries than its level of spending on health overall.

The Government's task is to break down the taboos surrounding private funding for health (and for education) which are the unfortunate legacy of the post-war welfare state. We need to develop a mixed economy in health in which private funding can co-exist fruitfully with public funding. A great deal more could be done to allow patients choice in the circumstances in which they are treated while continuing to ensure that everyone in need gets the best available medical attention.

Encouraging a higher contribution from the private sector towards the cost of health does not absolve the Government from pressing forward its efforts to improve efficiency in the NHS, even if that means upsetting the doctors. When productivity in a hip-replacement unit can be increased 100 per cent by changing the *consultant questions inevitably arise. There is* more scope for contracting out ancillary services and for developing the internal market in the NHS in other ways so that competition to serve the patient between different practices, different hospitals and different health authorities can become a reality.

But it is doubtful whether greater efficiency by itself can ever guarantee public satisfaction with the NHS. *Greater resources are likely to* be needed. They will be most effectively applied if they come through individual decisions, not collective taxation.

FRENCH LEAVE

French government action in plucking its security agent, Major Alain Mafart, from the South Pacific island of Hao and flying him home to Paris for medical treatment was outrageous and can hardly be condemned too strongly. To the cynical abuse of power which has characterized French policy throughout the Rainbow Warrior affair can now be added what looks very much like an act of shabby political subterfuge.

The Greenpeace protest ship Rainbow Warrior was sunk by two bombs as it lay at anchor in Auckland Harbour two and a half years ago. One member of the crew was killed (unintentionally) in the explosion, for which two French secret service agents were subsequently tried, convicted and jailed by a New Zealand court.

There followed two years of diplomatic wrangling, resolved in July, 1986, only after the intervention of Señor Javier Perez de Cuellar, Secretary General of the United Nations. France agreed to pay about £4.5m in compensation to the New Zealand government, whose territorial waters it had violated, and to submit a written apology for the incident. In return, however, the two agents, Major Mafart and Captain Dominique Prieur, would have their sentences commuted from 10 years to three, to be served, not in prison, but in "exile" at the French military base on Hao.

The package aroused great fury in New Zealand, and with good reason. But Mr David Lange, the Prime Minister in Wellington, could claim that he had little real choice. The cancellation of French orders for his country's meat, fruit and potatoes and the threat to its EEC dairy import quotas (mainly for Britain) imposed upon Mr Lange an economic blackmail which he was hardly in a position to resist.

Both he and his opposite number in Paris, M. Jacques Chirac, expressed their satisfaction with the deal; but it was the latter who had most cause to feel pleased. After first trying to deny all responsibility for the incident, the French had finally accepted it with bad grace. At no time have they expressed any real remorse.

Within two months of the July, 1986, accord the French Prime Minister was saying that his country had good reason to feel proud of the two on Hao. Now it would seem that he has been unable even to abide by the generous and carefully negotiated terms of the agreement.

The state of Major Mafart's health must at present remain a matter for conjecture. Nobody would deny him the right to first-class treatment. But New Zealand's own offers to fly in a medical specialist to examine him were rejected by the French on specious grounds.

If New Zealand belonged to the Third World and lacked the necessary medical resources, French concern for Major Mafart might just have been understandable. As it is, the need to fly him to metropolitan France is very dubious and Wellington's scepticism would seem to be well justified. Although a New Zealand doctor was due to see Major Mafart in Paris yesterday, it would seem that Mr Lange and his government have been presented with what amounts to a *fait accompli*.

Under the terms of last year's settlement neither "prisoner" was to have been removed from the island without the agreement of both governments. It is hard to believe that Major Mafart is so desperately ill that both the letter and the spirit of last year's settlement need to be so blatantly flouted. One has to question whether M. Chirac has made the decision in the light of domestic politics in Paris and his own presidential ambitions in particular. It is not an episode, however, from which either he or France deserves to escape with credit.

TREATY BEHIND BUSH

A week ago President Reagan and Mr Gorbachov were to be seen exchanging toasts, pens and smiles. The pictures were intended to linger in the memory of their respective peoples and to influence the way they think about their leaders.

But Mr Gorbachov's power to influence his people is indefinite, Mr Reagan's distinctly finite. For Mr Reagan will soon leave office. By the presidential election of November, 1988, however, the world will know whether Mr Reagan has influenced the choice of his successor as President of the United States.

The normal laws of politics, unclear though they are, suggest that Mr Reagan's new attitude towards the Soviet Union will favour the opposition – the Democrats. They are the party identified, at least since the 1960s, with "arms control" and generally getting on well with the Soviet Union. Mr Reagan first won the presidency by denouncing détente.

In most democracies, when a government embraces the policies of its opponents it is usually a sign that the spirit of the age is moving in the opponents' favour. At the next election the electorate tends not to reward the government for its open-mindedness. It votes for the real thing – for the party which really believed in the policy in the first place. All post-war changes of government in Britain have been preceded by the party in power moving towards their opponents' attitudes – or trying to. There are variants of this pattern in post-war American politics. And Mr Jimmy Carter undoubtedly shifted more to the right before being beaten by Mr Reagan.

If Mr Bush becomes the Republican nominee he will, as Mr Reagan's loyal lieutenant, effectively be the government candidate. Last week he seized all opportunities to be pictured alongside Mr Gorbachov. Could this, paradoxically, hurt him in next year's campaign when the Democratic candidate can depict himself as having been for arms control at a time when Mr Bush's chief was calling the Soviet Union "an evil empire"?

Probably not. This is because of the skilful way in which Mr Reagan is justifying the INF Treaty. He is saying it was the result of his previous strength, not of détente. His deployment of the intermediate-range missiles in Europe forced Mr Gorbachov to last week's signing ceremony. It may even be true. If it is not, the adverse effects will not become clear until after Mr Reagan has retired to California. But in the meantime INF and Start (strategic arms reduction talks) may have helped to elect Mr Bush to the presidency.

Mr Bush must by now be tired of reading that he is unlikely to win because no vice-president has succeeded to the presidency by election since one Martin van Buren. A more important piece of historical data is that Mr Bush is one of the few vice-presidents trying to succeed by election to the presidency who is not being humiliated by his president. When Eisenhower, in the 1960 campaign, was questioned about the contribution to government of the then vice-president and Republican nominee, Mr Nixon, he asked for time to think about it. Not for the first time, others have cause to be grateful for Mr Reagan's good nature.

The INF Treaty is popular. If it remains so throughout the president-choosing mysteries which begin in late February and end in November – caucuses, primaries, conventions and at last the general election in November – Mr Bush will be popular too, or more popular than he might otherwise be. And popular the Treaty is likely to remain. For there is no right-wing leader formidable and attractive enough to turn public opinion against it. Judging by the fright he gave the détente-minded President Ford, from whom he tried to wrest the Republican nomination in 1976, the only man who could have done that is Mr Reagan.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Struggle for expression in Church

From the Reverend Dr E. W. T. Dicken

Sir, The fact that the liberal secularists currently have a majority in the General Synod and the support of the overwhelming majority of liberal bishops nevertheless gives them no claim to *monopolise the publishing* resources of the Church. In practice, however, they have achieved this in innumerable reports put out by the Church Information Office for the past 20 years.

Those who do not find biblical and Prayer Book Christianity a disposable commodity have been at an overwhelming disadvantage in stating their case at least since the Anglican-Methodist unity debate of the late 1960s.

Dr Bennett was a consistently frank and outspoken advocate of what is still officially the faith and order of the Church of England, whose views command wide sympathy in the Church. Had the *Crockford* preface not been traditionally anonymous (along with leading articles in your own and other quality periodicals), I have no doubt that he would still have written what he did.

Messrs Derek Pattinson and James Shelley, respectively Secretary General of the General Synod and Secretary of the Church Commissioners, did no more than offer, for once, publication of a predictably orthodox contribution to the debate on the grievous state of the Church today. It would appear from Dr Habgood's attitude to both parties, as reported in your issue today, that he aims to suppress any further such contributions.

Yours faithfully,
E. W. TRUEMAN DICKEN,
Monks' Barn,
Maugersbury,
Stow-on-the-Wold,
Gloucestershire.
December 14.

From the Venerable Harold Lockley

Sir, One point in the correspondence relating to the personal attack on Dr Runcie by the writer of the preface to *Crockford* which so far seems to have been overlooked is the Archbishop's position *vis-à-vis* the General Synod.

The indecision and weakness of which the Archbishop is so unjustly accused are precisely those faults with which many of us would charge the Synod. The Archbishop, as president of the Synod, is clearly regarded by the writer of the preface as its embodiment and as personally responsible for its pusillanimity, which of course he is not. The defendant in the dock should be the General Synod, not the Archbishop.

Yours faithfully,
HAROLD LOCKLEY,
Emmanuel College, Cambridge.
December 5.

From the Venerable Robert Coogan

Sir, During the past few days I have taken the time to re-read and examine the prefaces of the last four editions of *Crockford's*. All of them raise issues of controversy in the Church and are radical and outspoken in their critique of the Church of England and the Anglican Communion, reflecting the views of their anonymous authors. With the passing of time, much of what they have said has been shown to be remarkably true.

Apart from the regrettable personal remarks about the present Archbishop of Canterbury, the preface of the 1987 edition of *Crockford's* sits well alongside its predecessors. Anonymity has been a worthy tradition of the preface and I consider that we would be unwise to alter that tradition in the light of what many will see as a hasty campaign mounted by interested parties and the media.

I remain, yours faithfully,
ROBERT COOGAN
(Archdeacon of Hampstead),
27 Thurlow Road,
Hampstead, NW3.
December 9.

From the Reverend James D. Makepeace and others

Sir, A key aspect of the morale and confidence of our national Church is the deployment and subsequent support of its parochial clergy. We, the undersigned, past or present incumbents of New College livings in the diocese of Chelmsford, wish to express the debt which we, and others like us, owe to Dr Gareth Bennett.

For nearly 30 years he discussed with assiduous care and indubitable integrity any vacancy with the parish concerned, pleaded with bishops when he felt that grandiose schemes of reorganisation were unhelpful, searched the Church of England for the right sort of candidate and kept regular, supportive contact with his men.

Although we certainly cannot claim to have lived up to all his expectations, we would bear witness to the toughness and sensitivity which he demonstrated in serving New College and its parishes. As a patron, he was a shining example, worthy of emulation.

Yours faithfully,
JAMES MAKEPEACE (St Michael and All Angels, Tettenhall),
RICHARD BEWES (All Souls, Langham Place),
WALLACE BENN (St Peter, Harold Wood),
DAVID JENNINGS (St Edward, Romford),
Tettenhall Rectory,
2 Lloyd Road, Wolverhampton.
December 10.

From Mr Clive St J. Thomas

Sir, Lord Hailsham's letter today (December 11), reminding members of the Synod that this is the season of good will to all men, struck a singularly sympathetic chord.

It should also serve as a timely reminder to the captain of the MCC team in Faisalabad.

Yours faithfully,
C. THOMAS,
Hillside House,
Wrotham, Kent.
December 11.

Lure to engineers

From Dr Colin Boswell

Sir, You report (December 3) the immediate outburst of criticism by the Engineering Council of the article in the Department of Employment's Gazette which reveals that, in terms of the number of engineering graduates emerging from universities and polytechnics, the UK does not suffer a significant disadvantage compared with our competitors. The Director of the CBI disagrees, apparently, stating that those working in engineering know that Britain needs more and better engineers.

Both viewpoints may be equally valid and for a very simple reason, namely, the reluctance of our engineering graduates to enter the engineering industry. During the three years that I have acted as external examiner for French course units at a prestigious technological university I have been astonished at how many of the engineering finalists (roughly 50 per cent of the chemical engineers) reported that they hoped to become *experts comptables*. It would also seem that we have an insatiable appetite for accountants in the UK.

Perhaps the lure of work in comfortable and well furnished offices is stronger than the night-shift at Scunthorpe. But there is also the question of salary. Presumably the critics of the department's report are believers in market forces. If it really is true that there is a desperate shortage of engineers, perhaps there is a simple market solution.

Yours faithfully,
COLIN BOSWELL,
Goldsmiths' College,
Warmington Tower,
Lewisham Way, SE14.
December 3.

Mozambique aid

From the Director of the Institute for the Study of Terrorism

Sir, I am glad that Ms Ruth Buckley (December 9) drew attention to the acts of banditry and terrorism carried out in Mozambique. If Renamo is guilty, it is not fit to be a negotiating partner.

But the facts are hard to establish, some witnesses saying that the bandits are "Frelimo by day and Renamo by night", others that they are neither. In any case Frelimo has its own record of atrocities, as for instance in the appalling re-education camps, where tens of thousands have died.

Yours sincerely,
JILLIAN BECKER, Director,
Institute for the Study of Terrorism,
65 Blandford Street, W1.
December 9.

Looking askance

From Mr Gunnar Fineman

Sir, One fears for the health, wellbeing and taste buds of your contributor, Mr Meades ("Puritanian nights", November 28) who submits, presumably voluntarily, to so much gastronomic mayhem on our behalf; but our admiration was tempered by his somewhat dyspeptic comment on the portraits of the King and Queen of Sweden hanging in Garbo's restaurant.

One would have hoped that the decorative virtues of Queen Silvia (whose name, like that of her husband, is a matter of public record) together with the increasingly rare consolation of food actually being cooked to order, might have soothed your correspondent's long wait.

Yours faithfully,
GUNNAR FINEMAN, Director
Swedish Chamber of Commerce for the United Kingdom,
18 Bentinck Street, W1.
December 9.

Impact of VAT on books business

From Mr Bruce Coward

Sir, In October, 1984, you were good enough to publish a letter from me on the impact that VAT on books would have had on small bookshops. I hope you will allow me to raise the subject again.

The European Commission is planning to call on all member governments to impose VAT on books on a scale of between 4 per cent and 9 per cent and thus end the present zero-rate status of books in the United Kingdom and Ireland. Although pressed on the subject in the House of Commons, no minister in the present Government has been prepared to state unequivocally that books will be excluded from such an impost.

If VAT is imposed with the acquiescence of the British Government the effect on the variety of books available and shops from which to buy them would be grave indeed since the rise in the retail price would be substantially larger than that due directly to VAT. This is because the market is not elastic so that, as prices rise, sales decrease, print runs are therefore lower and unit costs higher, leading to even higher retail prices. Economists claim that retail prices could rise by nearly double the rate of VAT.

Furthermore, it is rumoured that any extension of goods to be subject to VAT in this country could be at the current rate of 15 per cent as the Government views the introduction of different scales of tax as an unwelcome complication. If that is indeed the case a tax of 15 per cent on books would scarcely bear contemplating.

Is this the legacy that this generation would wish to leave to its heirs?

Yours faithfully,
BRUCE COWARD (Partner),
The Harbour Bookshop,
12 Fairfax Place,
Dartmouth, Devon.
December 8.

Reform of NHS

From Mr David Clouston

Sir, It is often pointed out that nurses do an essential job extremely well and that they deserve a skilled worker's remuneration. This argument cuts no ice with the NHS's current paymasters. Nor, I believe, should it. There is a better one.

Nurses are expensive to train. The money thus spent is "capital" invested in a nurse to produce an "income" in the form of useful work in the future. Trained nurses incur running costs in the form of wages, just as a factory consumes income in the form of lighting, power and maintenance. It is at this (late) stage that the NHS hesitates.

No competent corporation wastes capital on projects which it knows at the outset will cost too much to run. What else is the NHS doing but exactly this? By what political, economic or social theory is this justifiable?

Yours faithfully,
DAVID CLOUSTON,
110 Plimsoll Road, N4.
December 7.

From Dr Michael Paul

Sir, The joint statement by the presidents of three of the royal colleges (report, December 7) is right in demanding that something must be done about the provision of health care in this country, but only partially right about what and by whom.

Their statement that "additional and alternative funding must be found" could be mistaken for a call to the Government to provide more money, but this approach, in isolation, has never had a sympathetic response, nor should it. The problem is too vast. What is needed is a variety of new approaches and new thinking, not just more of the same, whether coloured red or blue.

A company health service (CHS) is one such approach. This provides a personal company doctor who is responsible for providing and organising acute care for urgent minor conditions, screening for relevant problems, prevention through education and worksite health programmes, traditional occupational health advice and liaison with the individual's general practitioner.

Some industries already spend a large amount on private health insurance and screening, often inappropriately, whilst others, having clearly defined their needs, provide a CHS for their employees, to their mutual long-term benefit. This is not done purely for altruistic reasons, but because it makes sound commercial sense.

Yours sincerely,
MICHAEL PAUL,
Medical Director,
General Medical Clinics,
67 Wimpole Street, W1.

London skylines

From Sir Geoffrey Jellicoe

Sir, As one of Lord Anglesey's colleagues on the Royal Fine Art Commission in the sixties I must mildly protest against his statement (December 7) that members were "totally, one and all, enthusiastic believers in and propagators of the New Brutalism and the other awful aspects of the fashionable architecture of the day". This was not so.

Having accepted that the *location* of a tall building in London was far more important than its architecture (brutal or not according to taste, not mine), the commission's collective effort, with advisory powers only, was to concentrate almost hopelessly on trying to save the city's skylines. A remarkable diagram as a guideline for all London (as for Oxford and Gloucester) was discreetly prepared by the LCC, but never matured; 39 authorities were involved. Could the idea not be revived?

Yours faithfully,
GEOFFREY JELLICOE,
14 Highpoint,
North Hill, Highgate, N6.

'Auk' recalled

From Mr Tom Dalby

Sir, I agree with Mr Antony Tasker (December 5) that it is heartening that the Alamein Museum should exist, but I believe it to be even more heartening that General Auchinleck should be remembered, if only in the tortured spelling mentioned by Dr Iain Brown (December 1).

On June 25, 1942, when the Eighth Army was in general retreat from Tobruk, Auchinleck took over command from General Ritchie and fought a rearguard action at Mersa Matruh in which my own field artillery regiment participated. Surrounded by Rommel's Panzer army, we then had to make a break-out at night and made our way to the hastily prepared Alamein position, losing half our guns and all our signal equipment.

Rommel's attack on Alamein started on July 1 and it was well known that he expected soon to be in Cairo. We were situated on high stony ground in the Deir-el Shein box, firing over open sights and under attack on the ground and by dive-bomber. Finally reduced to one gun only in action, we had to retire but, despite fighting only with the remnants of an army, General Auchinleck held the line throughout July and into mid-August, before the arrival of General Montgomery and massive reinforcements for the famous battle to come in late September.

It is important that this *first* and vital Battle of Alamein should not be allowed to fade into obscurity. Without Auchinleck, there would have been no victory in the desert.

Yours faithfully,
T. DALBY,
4 Westbourne Park,
Scarborough, North Yorkshire.
December 4.

Sharp practices?

From Dr H. C. Swaisland

Sir, A long break at this season is no recent innovation. A letter written on November 16, 1872, by J. H. Barber, of the Sheffield Banking Company, reads as follows:

The Sheffield people have a very bad old custom of doing all the work they can before Christmas that they may idle and dissipate for a fortnight afterwards and all the manufacturers are compelled to conform if they have orders unexecuted, as they know they get nothing done in the last and first week in the year.

I have the honour to remain, Sir, your obedient servant.

H. C. SWAISLAND,
166 Poplar Grove,
Kennington, Oxford.
December 5.

ON THIS DAY

DECEMBER 15 1939

The naval action off Uruguay described here warmed the hearts of the British people and brought new renown to the Royal Navy. The Graf Spee later put out to sea and was scuttled. Captain Hans Langsdorff, her captain, took his own life at Buenos Aires

A WATCH ON MONTEVIDEO

The German pocket battleship Admiral Graf Spee, badly damaged after her fight in the River Plate estuary with three British cruisers under Commodore Harwood, is at anchor in Montevideo harbour. She had 36 men killed and 60 wounded.

The 6-inch gun cruisers Achilles and Ajax, which pursued the Admiral Graf Spee into the River Plate, now await her in the estuary, and the Admiralty announces that they have been strongly reinforced.

References to this "brilliant and successful" operation were made in the House of Commons . . . and in the House of Lords . . .

GRAF SPEE LIMPS INTO HARBOUR

GRAPHIC STORY OF 14-HOUR BATTLE

HEAVY DAMAGE TO BATTLESHIP

From Our Special Correspondent

MONTEVIDEO, Dec. 14

At the end of a running fight of 14 hours along the Uruguayan coast the German "pocket battleship" Admiral Graf Spee, severely battered by the guns of the British cruisers Ajax, Achilles, and Exeter, and with 36 of her crew dead and 60 wounded, took refuge last night in the harbour of Montevideo.

She was hotly pursued by the Ajax and the Achilles – the Exeter, on whom she had concentrated her fire, had had to drop out of the action – and when she entered the inner harbour they took up a grim watch outside, ready to renew the battle if ever she was able to come out again. Later they were joined by the Exeter.

She had been hard hit and had suffered a number of casualties, but whatever damage had been done to her did not prevent her from proceeding to sea this *morning*, with the Ajax, to take up their patrol just outside Uruguayan territorial waters. The commander of the Admiral Graf Spee was among the casualties, but his wounds were not serious.

An unconfirmed report issued at midday said that the German battleship was preparing to leave harbour, notwithstanding the fact that a "reinforced squadron" of British cruisers was waiting outside for her.

There are widely varying reports of yesterday's battle, but all are agreed on one thing – that, although the superior speed of the British cruisers would have allowed them easily to escape an *encounter with a battleship* whose guns are so much heavier, it was they who carried the fight to the enemy. Making "magnificent" use, as observers said, of smoke-screens, they confused the enemy's aim and, coming from an unexpected quarter, were able to bring the Admiral Graf Spee within range of the 6in guns of the Ajax and Achilles as well as the 8in guns of the Exeter . . .

COURT AND SOCIAL

COURT CIRCULAR

BUCKINGHAM PALACE

December 14: The Duke of Edinburgh, Chancellor of Cambridge University, this evening attended the Chancellors' dinner at the United Oxford and Cambridge University Club, 71 Pall Mall, London SW1.

Brigadier Clive Robertson was in attendance.

ENSINGTON PALACE

December 14: The Duke of Gloucester, Grand Prior, The Order of St John, received and invested Major Michael Parker as a Knight of Grace at Kensington Palace at noon today.

Valiant for Truth Media Award

Lord Thomson of Monifieth presented the 1987 Valiant for Truth Media Award at the Arts Club yesterday to Mr Robert Fisk, Middle East Correspondent of *The Times*, "for fearlessly and consistently maintaining balanced reporting in conditions of great personal danger, most recently in the Middle East and particularly in West Beirut".

The Marchioness of Lothian presided on behalf of the Order of Christian Unity. Miss Kate Adie also spoke. Among those present were:

The Marquess of Lothian, the Earl and Countess of Dalkeith, the Countess of Euston, the Right Rev Mervyn and Mrs Wood, Lady Hayne of the Hirsel, Baroness Pike, Lady Ewart-Biggs, the Hon Mrs Hugh Astor, Sir Edward Pickering, Mr Charles Wilson, Mr Norman Fox, Mr George Brock, Miss Caroline Moorehead, Miss Lara Marlowe, Mr M J Hussey, Miss Renee Goddard, Mr Iain Lindsay-Smith, Mr William Benyon, MP, Mrs Meg Barnefield, the Rev M A Bourdeaux, Miss Sandra Brown, Professor John Carey, Mr Charlie Colchester, Mr Andrew Cruickshank, Mr James Downey, Miss Mikel Doyle, Miss Carolyn Fauider, Mrs Odette Hallowes, QC, Mr David Glencross, Miss Katherine Hadley, Mr Adam Helliker, Mr Gordon Heald, Miss Sally Ann Howes, Mr Julian Kerr, Miss Leonie McIlwaine, Mr Mosaraf Mosaraf, Mr David Nicholas, Miss Selina Scott, Mr Jon Snow, Mr Ben Whitaker, Miss Katharine Whitehorn, Mrs Rosemary McWhirter and Miss Susan Raven.

Dorothea Viscountess Chetwynd attended the memorial service for Miss Alice Saxby held on Friday.

Meeting

Chartered Institute of Transport

Mr Ray Horrocks delivered his Henry Spurrier memorial lecture "Technology on Transport — high or mighty?" to the Chartered Institute of Transport in London yesterday evening.

Mr R. Brook, president, presided.

Reception

HM Government

Mr Michael Forsyth, Minister for Education and Health at the Scottish Office, was host last night at a reception held in Edinburgh Castle to mark the completion of the review of hospital medical staffing establishments in Scotland.

Anniversaries

BIRTHS: Nero, 5th Roman emperor AD54-68, Antium (Anzio), AD37; George Romney, portrait painter, Dalton-in-Furness, Lancashire, 1734; Alexandre-Gustave Eiffel, engineer, builder of the tower bearing his name, Dijon, 1832.

DEATHS: Jan Vermeer, painter, Delft, 1675; Izaac Walton, author of *The Compleat Angler*, Winchester, 1683; Sir George Cayley, pioneer of aerodynamics, Scarborough, 1857; Sitting Bull, chief of the Sioux, on Grand River, South Dakota, 1890; Walt Disney, Los Angeles, 1966.

Birthdays today

Mr David Abell, chairman, Suter, 45; Lord Acton, 80; Miss Valerie Aggett, principal, Holborn Law Tutors, 37; Sir Denis Barnes, civil servant, 73; Mr Michael Bogdanov, theatre director, 49; Lord Croham, 70; Lord Dunpark, 72; Air Marshal Sir John Fitzpatrick, 58; Miss Ida Haendel, violinist, 63; Mr Gunnar Hägglöf, Swedish diplomat, 83; Sir Henry Hardman, civil servant, 82; General Sir Frank Kitson, 61; Deaconess Dr Una Kroll, writer and broadcaster, 62; Mr David McMurray, headmaster, Oundle School, 50; Mr Oscar Niemeyer, architect, 80; Miss Edna O'Brien, writer, 57; Professor M.H.F. Wilkins, biophysicist, 71.

Bridge

The area qualifying heats of the English Bridge Union's inter-county championship for teams of eight for the Tollemache Cup took place at the De Vere Hotel, Coventry over the weekend. There was an open draw before the start of play on Saturday. The following six section winners qualified for the final to be played at the Grand Hotel, Birmingham on the 28 February 27-28. Lincs and South Humberside, Leicestershire, Kent, London, Manchester, Surrey.

Today's royal engagements

The Queen will hold an investiture at Buckingham Palace at 11.00.

The Duke of Edinburgh will attend a meeting at the Design Council at 11.30 to select the 1987 Duke of Edinburgh's Designers Prize; a luncheon given by the Building Societies Association at 3 Savile Row at 12.40; and, as Patron of the London Federation of Boys' Clubs, will hold a reception at Buckingham Palace at 6.15.

Princess Margaret will attend a gala performance of *Acting Shakespeare* at the Playhouse Theatre at 7.50 in aid of the London Lighthouse Aids Hospice.

Princess Alice, Duchess of Gloucester, President of the Order of St John Musical Society, will attend the Esquires' Festival of Carols at the Grand Priory Church, St John's Square, at 6.55.

The Duke of Kent, patron, will attend a luncheon to launch the Kimberley Research Project 1988 at the Royal Geographical Society at 1.00.

The Duchess of Kent will open the new Nurse Education Centre at Stoke Mandeville Hospital at 2.30.

Princess Michael of Kent, as a trustee, will attend a meeting of the trustees at the Victoria and Albert Museum at 10.00.

Forthcoming marriages

Mr T.G. Hooper and Miss S.P. Nash

The engagement is announced between Tom, younger son of the late Mr John Hooper and Mrs Pauline Hooper, of Seaford, Sussex, and Susan, younger daughter of the late Mr Paddy Nash, of NATO, and Mrs Mary Nash.

Mr A.J. Kent and Miss F.J. Eckersley

The engagement is announced between Alan, elder son of the late Mr John Kent, and Mrs Rachel Kent, of Salisbury, Wiltshire, and Fiona, younger daughter of Mr and Mrs Myles Eckersley, of Romsey, Hampshire.

Mr S.H. Lloyd-Williams and Miss A. Hogg

The engagement is announced between Simon Huw, son of Mr and Mrs J.A. Lloyd-Williams, of Oswestry, Shropshire, and Anne, elder daughter of Mr and Mrs James Hogg, of Inverurie, Aberdeenshire.

Mr S.A.A. Radford and Miss C.J. Aspin

The engagement is announced between Simon, son of Mr and Mrs D.A. Radford, of Surbiton, Surrey, and Catherine, daughter of Mr and Mrs B.H. Aspin, of Cranleigh, Surrey.

Mr D.M. Smith and Miss K.J. Stirling

The engagement is announced between Douglas, son of the late Mr Bill Smith and of Mrs Frances Smith, and Trina Jane, daughter of Mr and Mrs Derek Stirling.

Mr D.F. Taine and Dr D.L. Peacey

The engagement is announced between David, younger son of Mr and Mrs G.V. Taine, of New Zealand, and Diana, younger daughter of Colonel and Mrs J.C. Peacey, of Prospect Row, Old Brompton, Gillingham, Kent.

Mr D.J. Weston and Miss L.M. Coletti

The engagement is announced between David, elder son of Dr and Mrs Peter Weston, of Worthing, Sussex, and Louise, youngest daughter of the late Mr G.D. Coletti and of Mrs E. Grindlay, of Stirling, Scotland.

Mr P.D. Winder and Miss J.B. Kitson

The engagement is announced between Philip, only son of Mr and Mrs D.E. Winder, of Charlton Kings, Cheltenham, and Jean, only daughter of the late Mr and Mrs W. Kitson.

Mr I.M. Wood-Smith and Miss S. Wright

The engagement is announced between Ian, elder son of Mr and Mrs Peter Wood-Smith, of Lane End, Buckinghamshire, and Stephanie, third daughter of Mr T.F. Wright and Mrs G.R. Jenkins, of Chelmsford, Essex.

Mr S. Alpe and Miss K. Lipcovitz

The engagement is announced between Simon, only son of Mr and Mrs G.N. Alpe, of Worcester Park, Surrey, and Katilena, daughter of Mr and Mrs G.A. Lipcovitz, of Khartoum.

Mr E. Jaferian and Miss C. Farrell

The engagement is announced between Edward, son of Mr Edward Jaferian, of New Hampshire, and Mrs Nancy Jaferian, of Concord, Massachusetts, and Catherine, daughter of Lieutenant-Commander R.J. Farrell, RN, (retd), of Tisbury, Wiltshire, and Mrs Charlotte Keene, of Buttermead, Manaton, Devon.

Mr I.R. Ward and Miss N.M. Tu

The engagement is announced between Ian Robert, elder son of Mr and Mrs Ian Ward, of Barnwood, Gloucester, and Ngoc Mai, younger daughter of Mr and Mrs Ba Quan Tu, of Long Xuyen, South Vietnam.

Mr S.M. Kesley and Miss S.M. McLean

The engagement is announced between Simon, elder son of Mr and Mrs N.A. Kesley, of Lamberhurst, Kent, and Susan, only daughter of Mr R. McLean and Mrs M. McLean, of Edinburgh.

Mr A.B. Meikle and Miss P.H. Main

The engagement is announced between Bruce, elder son of Mr and Mrs Andrew Meikle, of Falkirk, Stirlingshire, and Philippa, daughter of Mr and Mrs John Main, of Westbury-sub-Mendip, Wells, Somerset.

Mr H.A.C. Stacey and Miss W.L. Davies

The engagement is announced between Hugh Anthony Casterton, younger son of Mr and Mrs Charles Stacey, of Ndola, Zambia, and Wendy Lucienne, elder daughter of Squadron Leader and Mrs Howell Davies, of Gosmore, Hitchin, Hertfordshire.

Mr L.G.D. Cameron and Miss L. Williams

The engagement is announced between Lindsay, only son of the late Colonel Robert S. Cameron and of Mrs Mary J. Cameron, of Kitzbühel, Austria, and Lynne, only daughter of Mr and Mrs Ron F. Williams, of Bishampton, Worcestershire.

Marriages

Mr K.A.F. Burke and Miss P.J.C. Baker

The marriage took place yesterday at St Paul's, Knightsbridge, of Mr Kevin Burke, son of Sir Aubrey and Lady Burke, to Miss Peta Baker, daughter of Mr Hugh Baker and Mrs Frederick Gordon Salmon. The Rev C. Courtauld officiated.

The bride, who was given in marriage by her father, was attended by Katrina Milton.

Prince Ernst August of Hanover was best man.

A reception was held at the Victoria and Albert Museum and the honeymoon will be spent in Africa.

Mr R.J. White and Miss R.E. Brownstein

The marriage took place on December 5, in London, of Mr Richard James White to Miss Rosemary Elizabeth Brownstein.

Dinners

United Oxford and Cambridge University Club

The Duke of Edinburgh, Chancellor of Cambridge University, and Lord Jenkins of Hillhead, Chancellor of Oxford University, were the guests of honour at a dinner given last night by the United Oxford and Cambridge University Club at 71 Pall Mall. Mr Christopher Bostock, chairman, presided.

Foundation for Science and Technology

Lord Lloyd of Kilgerran, QC, presided at a lecture and dinner given yesterday by the Foundation for Science and Technology at the Royal Society's house. Dr J.D. Woods and Dr M. Davies also spoke. Among those present were:

Lord Gregson, Lord Kearton, Lord Sherfield, Admiral Sir James Eberle, Admiral Sir Lindsay Bryson, Sir Anthony Loughton, Sir John Mason, Vice-Admiral Sir Derek Reffell, Professor R E D Bishop, Dr J Rae, Mr J H Fish, Professor R N Franklin, Dr J T Houghton, Rear-Admiral R G Morris, Mr O Rolfh, Rear-Admiral M L Stacey and Dr P T Warren.

E. Edwards Son & Noice

The partners of E. Edwards Son & Noice gave dinner last night at Painter's Hall to mark the retirement of Mr Brian Edwards as senior partner and his appointment as a consultant. Mr Christopher Stokes and Mr Charles Newman also spoke.

Service Dinner

Combined Cadet Force

General Sir Hugh Beach, President of the Combined Cadet Force, was the principal guest at the annual dinner held last night at the Imperial Hotel. Lieutenant-Colonel F.N. Cooper presided. Among those present were:

Vice-Admiral R R Squires, Rear-Admiral C J Howard, Major-Generals P C Shapland and M S Hancock, Air Vice-Marshals G C Lamb and N J Pilkington.

Appointments

Latest appointments include:

Colonel John Timmins to be Lord Lieutenant of Greater Manchester, in succession to Sir William Downward.

Mr Bruce McGowan, formerly Headmaster of Haberdashers' Aske's School, Elstree, to be Chairman of the Church Schools Company, in succession to the Rev C.G. Stables. The company controls seven independent girls' schools.

Mr Michael S. Chance to be Deputy Director of the Serious Fraud Office; **Mr John A. Knox** to be chief accountant.

The Rev Dr John **Goldingay** to be Principal of St John's College, Nottingham, in succession to the Rev Dr Anthony Thiselton who is moving to St John's College, Durham, in April.

Mr Michael Hugh Neligan to be a Metropolitan Stipendiary Magistrate.

Mr Ranald MacLean and Professor Adrian L Webb have been re-apointed members of the Council on Tribunals.

Mr Peter Brian Pollock, Mr Simon Alfred **Goldstein**, and Mr Roger Benedict **Sanders** to be Circuit Judges on the South Eastern Circuit. Judge Martyn Ward has retired from the Circuit Bench on the South Eastern Circuit.

Dr David Lipkin to be consultant cardiologist at the Royal Free Hospital, Hampstead. Dr Anthony **Mann**, senior lecturer in psychiatry at the hospital, to be professor of psychiatry at the University of London. Dr Nori **Graham**, consultant psychiatrist at the hospital, to be chairman of the National Alzheimer's Disease Society.

Winning her wings



The Duchess of York wearing her wings yesterday

Not even Eartha Kitt, singing wistfully in quest of her old-fashioned millionaire, dreamt of helicopters that are labelled "his" and "hers." But then Miss Kitt did not have a husband in the Navy (Alan Hamilton writes).

The Duchess of York, fulfilling an informal marriage vow to discover what her husband really did for a living, was yesterday presented with her wings as a qualified helicopter pilot after 43 hours' instruction on a Bell Jet Ranger. The Duchess had previously gained her private pilot's licence to fly fixed-wing aircraft.

Flying lessons, which would normally cost £8,000, were given to the Duchess as a wedding gift by the industrialist Lord Hanson, chairman of Hanson Trust, who also provided one of his company's own helicopters for the course.

At the presentation at RAF Benson, Oxfordshire, where the Queen's Flight is based, the Duke of York paid tribute to his wife's determination, gallantly admitting that it had taken him 85 hours' instruction to gain his own wings on an intensive Royal Navy course. "It is an amazing achievement; I am constantly surprised by her", he said.

The Duchess said that the hardest part of the course had been learning "the inside and out" of the helicopter engine, which she was required to know backwards. She paid generous tribute to her instructor, Mr Kevin Mulhern, an ex-Royal Navy helicopter pilot. "Luckily he has a sense of humour", she said. The Duke had occasionally flown with her during her instruction, "but he did not need a sick-bag."

Arguments about who will drive in the two-chopper family are unlikely to arise. The Duke is not licensed to fly civilian helicopters, nor the Duchess to fly military machines.

University news

London results

FACULTY OF ARTS

King's College

BA

Class II (Div 1): J M Akers, R M Askew, S E Ford, S D Mitchell, A C Russell, J N R Wales.

Class II (Div 2): T H Caton, H J Codrington, P J Cornick, L J Dyer, J C Harris, P D Jackson, A G Jaques, K E Wilson, D M Wood.

Class III: M J Compton-James, O I Jones, C P A Wynne.

FACULTY OF SCIENCE

B Sc

Class I: V S L Ash, C A Atha, G C Baisler, A L Berlein, K I Betts, K P J Bodley, C W W Bradley, E A S Brander, J R Briggs, C P Burke, F D Campbell, D P Carr, S J Carr, A C Cave, N S W Cheung, A J Clark, S C Croft, S A Cuddy, B L Daly, R Delve, M J Dodge, S E Edgley, C J Edwards, A J Fox, A Hasiuni, M J Hastings, Himmelstrup, A N Hintzsramdt, L V Jackson, B L Jarrett, M A Jarvis, R B Jones, M P Khanaal, R Kopec, K Kwok Fook Kay, D J Lacy, P F Lalio, J K Lawley, D R Lawrence, G Lee Kam Hung, C J Lessing, A G Lloyd, A Loutzr, J M Madeley, A Mansell, B J Marsh, A L Martel, A W Masters, R H Maxwell, O E McCutcheon, S J McLaren, R M Merrick, A P B Molloy, K G Morgan, H M Mudder, P L Naylor, H Newton, R J Pickering, S A M Pickworth, S Price, W P Rakowicz, S Saad, V S Samaratunga, R W Scotland, E M Scott, L K Sendall, D A Shepherd, P M Sheridan, J E Simon, S Staunard, E L Stevenson, L K M Summers, N J Thacker, M C Taylor, T M Taylor, A H Tehidi, M C Vakali, L I Watkins, S P Winterbottom, K A Woodhouse, J Woodward, Yu Pak Sang.

Class II (Div 1): J Abrahall, S J Ackers, C Agranoff, P Al Jabar, L Al-Samar, S Atkinson, S J Ayers, J Bacon, S A Baidlag, C P Barben, C Barnes, S C Barry, A J Bedlow, R C Bell, J F G Bell, R M Bembow, M Bennett, S J Bevis, A J Birde, A D Blackmore, J C Bowden, S Bowen, A M Bramley, S C Brewer, S A Bridges, S D Briggs, S M Brownlender, T L Buckler, F M Bull, M S Burridge, N C Burton, J Busby, A B Cantwell, C Chan, K C Chan, C A Chang, H J Chant, A K Chauhan, L J Cheshire, K N Chrysostomou, O N T Gretti, P W Clark, M E Clarke, M S Clavey, J Coates, N M Coates, M C Collins, A C N Cooper, J A J Cooper, K Cooper, I P Corbett, H T Cotton, J L Coulstock, J A Cox, S D Cozens, F M G Cryan, A J Curry, N J De J D'Meiloz, D L Darling, J S R Davey, C G A Davies, R J Day, L C Deadman, H A Dean, F J A Dixon, P Dore, J S Dorn, G J Douglas, R Dovy, G S Duncan, C N Dunthorn, G A Dyker, H S Easton, S A Edgerton, P R Eggleton, J E Elson, A S Evans, A M Fabb, D P Farr, J S Fareday, P A Fine, M A Flynn, G F Foster, D J Fraser, A R Gandecha, S M Gibbons, P J Gilbert, M P Gilpin, M Girt, M L Gobie, G J Goodman, J E Groves, H E S Grubb, A L D Guarnieri, E J Gunn, J L Hammond, J L Hamm, D J Hancock, C S Harper, R G Harris, E R Harrison, A J Hayes, J H Hayes, A P Hayter, M V M A Heffernan, C J Henderson, E J Hooper, R J Herd, S M Hewitt, P L T Hinchliffe, H J Hobson, F J Holland, J N R Horton, A S Hudson, C Hui, C Hui Lok Yan, S Jackson, V M Jackson, P A Jacobs, R J Jarvis, M Jarvis, D J Joarder, R A Jobber, R M John, A D Jones, M G Jones, A P Juniper, C O Y Khan, I C King, I R Kothari, S J Lane, V Langham, S G Lawood, T Y Lee, S J Leslie, M A Lim, C M Lloyd, N R Lowe, J C Luxton, J R G MacKintosh, R R Mackison, G May, S A Mayberry, M J McAllister, S A Mcfahon, K P Mistri, M D Mason, J L Modhu, N M Moghrabi, S J Molland, P V Moodie, A J Morris, P J Mudcaby, H Murray, C L Mutton, S A Nelson, M E Newman, J S Newton, A E Nicholl, A J Nkwocha, J Norgrave, S J O'Connor, K A O'Leary, M O'Shea, C R Orel, T W Page, R P Palmer, A J Papadopoulos, D J Parrish, S T Parker, A C Parker, M E Parry, E Peterson, S M E Patten, S Pearce, R A Perridge, M C Perseud, C J Petley, L J Phipps, V Pike, P F Pinto, E A Podmore, N D Poplett, R M Postlethwaite, N A Rady, B S Ragoo, S Rahman, D Rainford, S P J Ralphs, R E Ramsay, G Ramsamuna, D P Richards, J P Ring, C H Roberts, J A Roberts, L G Roberts, R C Robinson, A D Rosenstein, D M Royce, B J Roy, L J Salter, D Satvemini, H J Samuel, T O Sanni, A B Schofield, E R Scott, R A N Sekyi, N G Seward, S F Sewell, C R Sharp, J Shaw, S R A H Skarstein, D J Skee, J M Slee, D J Slinger, A Smith, J P Smith, J Smith, S C P Smith, S E Spurrier, C N Stait, K R St John, H C Statham, E Steed, V A Stedcliffe, C C Sutton, U Swaminathan, O Symonds, L E Symon, S Taberi, C P Thomas, H C Thomas, A A Thompson, A M T Thornton, J Stuart, D Tolland, S Tran, A P Tsim, S C Urwin, K Wadhwa, S A Victor, S A L Vyse, T J Waddicor, A A Walker, R T Wayte, Wallis, E Watterall, P A White, N J Whitehead, J J Williams, F R St M Williams, S A Wilson, A G Wilton, M-C M Wong, K C Wong, J S Wood, J Woodhouse, M Wright, P M S Wylie, P S Zaman, R Zia.

Kent

The title and status of reader has been conferred on Dr Michael Kemp, senior research fellow in the university's personal social services research unit.

OBITUARY

BISHOP H. J. CHARLES

Service to the Church in Wales

The Right Rev Harold Charles, who died on December 11, at the age of 73, was a dinstinguished figure in the Church in Wales. He was Bishop of St Asaph from 1971 until his retirement in 1982.

Harold John Charles was born in the Swansea Valley on June 26, 1914, a clergyman's son. He graduated from the University of Wales and from Keble College, Oxford, before studying for the priesthood at St Michael's College, Llandaff.

He was ordained in 1938 to the curacy of Abergwili, before serving as Bishop's Messenger for Swansea and Brecon (1940-8), when he was also the bishop's examining chaplain. He then went as a lecturer to University College, Bangor, where was, at the same time, Warden of the Church Hostel, Bangor.

He was then appointed vicar of St James's, Bangor, before moving, in 1954, to St Michael's College, Llandaff, and the post of warden. Here he devoted much time and care to the training of ordinands.

In a sense, however, his true vocation was most fully realised when he went as Dean to St Asaph Cathedral, in 1957. He found a cathedral in grave disrepair, and over the next twelve years he raised large sums for its restoration.

Charles was a member of the Society of New Testament Studies, and he made a notable contribution to a new translation of the Scriptures into Welsh. He was a pastor of gentleness and grace, who left a lasting impression on clergy and lay people alike.

For many years, he faced ill health with patience and fortitude. He is survived by his wife, Noeline, and their daughter.

MR MARTIN SHARP

Mr Martin Sharp, public relations manager of the de Havilland aircraft company from 1936 until its merger with Hawker Siddeley in 1960, died on December 3. He was 87.

Though it may seem today that such a famous aircraft manufacturer's name can scarcely have needed advertising, in the 1930s the picture was rather different, and Sharp had to battle against the innate modesty of the firm's focal genius, Sir Geoffrey de Havilland.

De Havilland and his fellow founder-directors shunned publicity of any sort, and sometimes scarcely seemed aware of the extent to which Sharp contributed to the company's early commercial success, through his persuasive and literate essays for the technical and general Press.

Born in the opening year of the century, Sharp had begun his working life in banking, in India, and came to de Havilland via motoring magazines, and a spell as an assistant editor on *The Aeroplane*.

During the war he assisted with the promotion of the company's military projects, not all of which were immediately recognizable by the ministries concerned as being credible. An unarmed, wooden aircraft designed to be able to outfly the fastest fighters yet bomb Berlin, might not seem a totally plausible idea, but became, in fact, the immortal Mosquito.

Sharp retained an enthusiastic vision, which was never tainted by PR cynicism, of the future of air transport. As early as 1949 he was writing prophetically of "a very cold dry Martini at 500mph and eight miles up".

During the hectic merger with Hawker Siddeley he wryly observed that his own self-effacing chief was absorbed by his rival probably only because Hawker Siddeley's chairman rode about in a Rolls with personal number plates, while Sir Geoffrey drove an anonymous Morris Minor. Sharp remained with Hawker Siddeley until his retirement in 1964.

His book *DH: An Outline of the de Havilland History*, appeared in 1960.

Though himself a model company servant, respectful to the point of deference, Sharp had strong principles, and on one occasion attacked with his fists a youth whom he saw throwing stones at a hare at le Bourget airport.

He leaves his widow, Barbara (like him, a private pilot in her day), and two daughters.

MR AILWYN BEST

Mr Ailwyn Best, FRIBA, architect and recital singer, died on December 6, at the age of 80.

Born on September 24, 1907, he went to Winchester, where his singing came to the notice of Dame Nellie Melba. She invited him to join her on the concert platform on the occasion of a recital for the inmates of Wormwood Scrubs prison.

Later, he made his Wigmore Hall début with Gerald Moore accompanying him. Yet he did not make music his career. Instead, he went to Liverpool University where he graduated in architecture, in 1931. There was little work for a young architect during the years of Depression so he returned to singing, and was, for three years, principal tenor in the chorus at Sadler's Wells Opera.

During the war he served with the Royal Marines as a welfare officer. With his wife, Elizabeth, herself a fine soprano, he entertained thousands of troops with songs and duets ranging from Mozart to Ivor Novello. After the war he continued to sing the Evangelist's role in Bach's *St Matthew Passion*, at the Leith Hill music festivals under Vaughan Williams, who thought him the finest recital tenor of his generation.

In the meantime he returned to architectural practice, and with R. Fielding Dodd, of Oxford, he designed new buildings for Queen's and Oriel colleges. He always kept up a small private practice where his talent for conservation and resoration could flourish.

In 1959, he joined Donald W. Insall Associates, and was engaged on the restoration of Boston Manor, Brentford; Glenarm Castle, Co. Antrim; and Asgill House, Richmond. He and his colleagues also prepared the schemes for the repair and re-modelling of Chevening House, Sevenoaks. He retired in 1970, but continued to be connected with assignments such as the repairs at Trinity College, Cambridge, and Alton Towers, Staffs.

In the early days of the BBC's Third Programme, a group of his songs was performed on the wireless, and he had set some of the poems of Dylan Thomas and John Betjeman.

Best was distinguished by gentleness, courtesy, and a great sense of fun.

His wife died in 1971. He leaves three sons.

MR HERBERT BARR

Mr Herbert Barr, VMH, a respected specialist in bulbs, particularly daffodils, died on November 29. He was 84.

With his late brother, George, he inherited the family seed and bulb business of Barr & Son from their father, Peter, in his day, a leading breeder of daffodils.

Herbert Barr took an active part in the affairs of the Royal Horticultural Society, and for many years he was vice-chairman of the narcissus and tulip committee.

In 1950, he was awarded the Peter Barr Memorial Cup for work with daffodils. He received a gold Veitch Memorial Medal in 1969, and the Victoria Medal of Honour in 1975.

For many years he was a trustee of the Royal Gardeners' Orphan Fund, and an indefatigable supporter of both this charity and of the Gardeners' Royal Benevolent Society.

He is survived by his wife, Marion.

Raul Damonte, Argentinian playwright, cartoonist, and novelist, died yesterday in France, aged 48.

He was best known to the French by the name of Copi, through his cartoon character "The Sitting Woman", in the news magazine *Le Nouvel Observateur* — a forlorn and cynical old woman who addresses her remarks to a duck.

'SLAM' STEWART

"Slam Stewart", jazz bass player and one half of the scat-singing duo Slim and Slam, has died at the age of 73.

Stewart, and the guitarist, Slim Gaillard, are best remembered for their hit "Flat Foot Floogie" (1938), but they had a string of other successes, many of them entitled in an equally zany manner, to their credit.

Among these were "Tutti Frutti", "Spooghm" and "Groove Juice Special".

Leroy Stewart was born at Englewood, New Jersey. He began as a musician with the violin before switching to the bass. He also studied at the Boston Conservatory.

Besides his partnership with Gaillard, Stewart played with such names as Fats Waller, Art Tatum and Benny Goodman. He was in Waller's band for the film *Stormy Weather*.

His nickname came from his habit of slapping the bass.

Mr Edwin C. "Fast Eddie" Townsend, listed in *The Guinness Book of Records* as the world's oldest male parachutist, died on December 12, at Columbus, Ohio. He was 90.

His record-breaking jump, at the age of 89, took place on February 6 of last year, into Vermillion Bay, Louisiana.

Townsend died a few days after having been struck by a motorcar.

Appointments in the Forces

Royal Navy

COMMODORE: A P Hoddinott – COS to FOSM 31.5.88

CAPTAIN: C H D Cooke – Priest – SNOWE 1.1.88

COMMANDER: J W Birnie – Seahawk 16.4.88; T H Boycott – MOD (London) 18.4.88; G M Broadbent – Bristol 3.5.88; P H Carr – MOD Bath 22.4.88; B A Fearon – MOD Bath 19.1.88; P D Gardner – MOD London 1.12.87; D G I Grimsdale – MOD Bath 11.5.88; R S H Julian – Excellent – Service with USN for 2 years 8.4.88; P A C Lockwood MOD (PE) Bath 4.3.88; D K Mackenzie – MOD London 14.4.88; P J Pacey – York 14.6.88; J M Parkinson – MOD London 24.6.88; S J Petter – MOD Bath 20.6.88; M A Pearvis – RNAS Yeovilton 3.6.88; D C Rowley – MOD London 1.12.87; R H C Simpson – ARE Portland 13.5.88; C V Sitwell – MOD London 13.5.88; A J Spruce – MOD London 4.3.88; C B H Stevenson – MOD London 5.1.88.

Retirements

COMMANDERS: J A Bapp – 30.12.87; D E Campkin 27.2.88; G G Meekums – 17.2.88.

The Army

LIEUTENANT GENERAL: Maj Gen J R A MacMillan to be GOC Scotland and Governor of Edinburgh Castle, in January 1988, in succession to Lt Gen Sir Norman Arthur.

MAJOR GENERALS: J A M Evans to be Senior Army Mbr RCDS in January 1988, in succession to Maj Gen S C Gordon Lennox; The Honourable T P J Boyd-Carpenter to be COS HQ BAOR in February 1988, in succession to Maj Gen C H A Becket; D Shaw to be DGEAME (Eva) in January 1988 in succession to Maj Gen J C Bourne.

BRIGADIERS: R J S Corbett – To be ACOS(Prog) MOD. 18.12.87; M G R Anderson – To be Cmd Arty 3 Armd Div. 18.12.87; W P Bentley – To be Comdt, HQ BICESTER Gar & COO BICESTER. 22.12.87; A W Freemantle – To be Cmd 19 Inf Bde. 18.12.87.

COLONELS: W E J Allen – To HQ Trg Gp RCT. 14.12.87; M A Benjamin – To MOD. 18.12.87; M J Carnegie – To Brown – To UKCICC. 18.12.87; D H C Creswell – To HQ 1 Arty Bde. 17.12.87; B J Sanderson – To RHQ RE. 14.12.87; A J Swan – To LEAD. 23.12.87; G A Morris – To RSA. 19.12.87; M A Payne – To Sch of Sigs. 18.12.87; A J Pinion – To MOD. 18.12.87.

LIEUTENANT-COLONELS: A Butterworth RAOC – To MOD. 14.12.87; G C Grey RTR – To RAC Centre. 14.12.87; B C Lambe RA – To be CO 1 RHA. 5.1.88; R E Ralston RCT – To be CO 8 Regt RCT. 14.12.87; R J R Symonds AAC – To RA. CSS Gp. 14.12.87; J A Flake WRAC – To RMCS SHRIVENHAM. 14.12.87; A W Merrick RSIGNALS – To MOD. 14.12.87.

Retirement:

Colonel J N D Lucas late RS. 21.12.87.

Royal Air Force

AIR COMMODORE: R H Kyle – To be Director of Training (Ground) RAF 14.12.87; J Mackay – To be Principal Dental Officer RAFSC 11.12.87; P Dodworth – To be Director of Personnel 18.12.87.

GROUP CAPTAIN: K B Latton – To MOD(AFD) for Staff Duties 18.12.87; M J Abbott – To MOD(AFD) for Staff Duties 18.12.87; D A Needham – To HQ SACLANT (for Staff Duties) 18.12.87; T Garden – To MOD (Central Staffs) for Staff Duties 18.12.87; B M Humphries – To MOD(AFD) Chf Engr 14.12.87; I Dorrell – To SSC Stanbridge 14.12.87.

WING COMMANDER: D R Beason – To HOSTC 14.12.87; J M A Mayo – To 16 MU RAF Stafford 14.12.87; D J Nicol – To RAF Lyneham 14.12.87; R J Pearce – To MOD 14.12.87; B Hicks – To MOD 14.12.87; D D Allen – To RAF Cosford 14.12.87; D Hobert – To RAF Valley 14.12.87; W J Taylor – To RAF West Raynham 14.12.87; M J Spalding – To MOD 14.12.87; W W Robinson – To MOD London 14.12.87; J A Cooke – To 2 TWU Cirencester 14.12.87; G J Goodman – To MOD CAS 11.12.87; R C Campbell – To OASC Biggin Hill 14.12.87; M A Gaynor – To RAF Turnhouse 14.12.87; K D Rhodes – To RAF Benson 18.12.87; W M Burnett – To RCDS London 18.12.87; M J Holdsworth – To RAF Stanbridge 18.12.87; J R D Acworth – To HQ NATS 18.12.87; B A Wright – To RAF Bruggen 18.12.87; A H Jones – To HQ Strike 18.12.87; P Civitis – To HQAFSC 18.12.87; N R Wood – To MOD CVE 18.12.87; D W Broughton – To MOD AFD 18.12.87; R Higson – To MOD CVE 18.12.87; D J Holliday – To Ashford 18.12.87.



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Latest wills

Lieutenant Colonel Frederick Roger Hue-Williams, of St James's Place, London SW1, stockbroker and racehorse breeder, whose horse Altesse Royale won the 1,000 Guineas, Oaks and Irish Oaks in 1971, left estate valued at £792,114 net.

Mrs Mary Sinclair Hunter, of Sloane Court West, London SW3, left estate valued at £1,365,847 net.

Mrs Brenda Pauline Jagger, of Shipley, West Yorkshire, novelist, left estate valued at £24,857 net.

Air Commodore Ian Neil MacDougall, of East Grafton, Wiltshire, Battle of Britain fighter pilot, left estate valued at £51,476 net.

Mr Frank James Thrower, of Campden Hill Road, London W8, the glass and ceramic designer who was involved in both Portmeirion Pottery and Dartington Glass, left estate valued at £363,412 net.

Mr Peter Bernard Wolfe, of Haywards Heath, West Sussex, of Wolfe Publishing, left estate valued at £1,076,903 net.

Lady de Ramsey, of Abbots Ripton Hall, Cambridgeshire, left estate valued at £333,314 net.

Church news

Church of England

The Ven Peter S. Dawes, aged 59, Archdeacon of West Ham, diocese Chelmsford, is to be the new Bishop of Derby. He succeeds the Rt Rev Cyril Bowles.

Appointments

Inductions:

Rev Roy J M Henderson to St Andrew's, Alexandria.

Rev Earsley M White to Park: Uddingston.

Rev Margaret Liddell to Contin-Strathconon.

Translations:

Rev Iain D Cunningham from Duntocher to Kirkton: Carluke.

Rev Alexander Robertson from Scotstoun East: Glasgow to Aberfuthnott with Laurencekirk.

Rev W Brian Wilkinson from Kilmore and Oban to East: Kirkwall.

Rev J Gordon Grant from Portland: Troon to Dean: Edinburgh.

Rev Andrew P Lees from Associate at Eddleston with Lyne and Manor with Peebles Old to Ashton: Gourock.

Rev Michael J Erskine from Associate at Ellon to Inverkip.

Retirements:

Rev Stanley J Raffan from Hospital Chaplain, Dumfries.

Rev John F Orr from St John's Oxgang

BIRTHS, MARRIAGES, DEATHS

For this cause we also, since the day we heard it, do not cease to pray for you, and to desire that ye might be filled with the wisdom of God's will in all wisdom and spiritual understanding.
Colossians 1 : 9

BIRTHS

BRODIE - On December 10th, at the Portland Hospital, London, to Geraldine and Christian, a son, Benjamin Christian, a brother for James.

BURGESS - On December 11th, to Alexandra (née Twiston Davies) and Robin, a daughter, Rose Charlotte.

COATS - On December 13th, to Joanna and Anthony, a son.

DRUMMOND-BRADY - On December 10th, to Susie (née Fair) and Mark, a son, Frederick Mark Fair.

HEALD - On December 12th 1987, at Pembury Hospital, to Isabel and Peter, a son, Angus MacDuff, a brother for Judith, Andrew, Duncan and Hamish.

HILLEN - On December 11th 1987, to Monica (née Curtice) and John, a daughter, Florence Elizabeth.

HONE - On December 12th 1987, to Sarah (Née Nicholl-Carne) and Richard, a son Nathaniel.

MACNEILL - On December 11th, at U.C.H., London, to Susie (née Craven) and Don, a daughter, Emily, a sister for Callum.

McCARTHY - On December 10th 1987, to Toni (née Wheeler-Smith) and Michael, a son, Michael Sean.

NICHOLAS - On December 10th, 1987, to Holly and Paul, a son, James Alexander.

PEARSON - On December 12th, at Yeovil Hospital, to Tess (née Harden) and Nigel a daughter, Lucinda Christine.

PERCY - On December 12th, to Suzie (née Holford-Walker) and Humphrey, a daughter, Emma Alexandra, a sister for Daisy, Luke and Christopher

PICKFORD - On December 9th, at Queens Medical, Nottingham, a daughter to Sara (née Fleck) and James, Rosemary Elizabeth.

SASSE - On December 9th, to Mary and Dominic, a son, Joshua Seymour.

SHOWERING - On December 11th 1987, to Sukl (née Bentley) and Francis, a son, Samuel Francis, a brother for Jemima.

WILLMOTT - On November 6th 1987, to Rachael (née Stormonth) and John, a daughter, Bryony Katharine Alice.

YATES - On December 11th, at Solihull Hospital, to Fiona (née Colquhoun) and Richard, a son Edward John Charles, a brother for Thomas.

DEATHS

ANGUS - On December 7th, suddenly at his home in Ealing, Dr Selby. Dearly beloved husband of Mary and father of Christopher, Keith and Lucinda. Funeral Service and cremation at Breakspear Crematorium, Ruislip on Thursday December 17th at 2.30pm. Flowers to W.S. Bond Ltd. 19 Bond Street, Ealing, W5.

BEAVEN - On December 11th, 1987, peacefully at The Bath Clinic, Ruby Melvill, of Stratford House, Holt, Wilts, widow of Lieutenant Colonel R.M.P. Beaven.

BRANDT - On December 11th, peacefully at his home, Broxham Manor, Four Elms, Willie, aged 90 years. Beloved husband of the late Cecile, much loved father, grandfather and great grandfather. Cremation private, but service of thanksgiving at Four Elms Church, Friday December 18th at 2.30pm. Please, no flowers.

BUCKLE - On December 9th, peacefully at home, in Easingwold, Rachel Joan (née McLaren), wife of the late Leslie Grieves Buckle, formerly of Cottingham and Brazil. Funeral service at St. Mary's Church, Kiddington, Oxford on Thursday 17th December at 2pm, if desired flowers or donations to the MacMillan Nurses Fund to C.Medd & Sons, Market Place, Easingwold, North Yorks. Tel. (0347) 21370.

BUCKWELL - On December 13th, peacefully Jack, aged 80 years of Three Corners, Ditchling, Sussex. Dearly loved husband of Margaret, loving father of Jeremy and Grandfather to Jack, Oliver, Rebecca and Dominic. Funeral on Monday 21st December at St. Margaret's Church, Ditchling at 2 pm. Family flowers only but donations to St. Margaret's Church may be sent to William Collins and Son, 12 Mill Road, Burgess Hill, Sussex. Tel Burgess Hill 3216.

CHITTENDEN - On December 11th, 1987, peacefully at home, Barbara May, beloved wife of the late Hugh Saltfield Chittenden and much loved mother of John (deceased), Joan, David and Ann - grandmother of Philippa, Angela, Jane and Emma, and friend and companion of 'Tommy'. Funeral service at St. Leonard's Parish Church, Seaford on Thursday, 17th December, at 2pm. Family flowers only but donations, if desired, to RNLI, c/o Seaford Funeral Services, Seaford, Sussex.

COOPER - On December 10th 1987, at home, Winnie, aged 93. Greatly loved by all her family and friends. Funeral at St Mary Abbot's on Thursday December 17th at 2.30pm. Followed by a private cremation. By her request, no flowers please, but donations to Muscular Dystrophy, Natiras House, 35 Macaulay Road, London SW4.

CHATTERTON - On December 13th, peacefully at home, Ruth Mary, beloved wife of Robert, dear mother of Mary Ann, James and Peter, grandmother of Jack. Enquiries to Tapper Funeral Service (0202) 673164.

CRAMER - On December 10th, peacefully at the Sutherland Nursing Home, aged 89, Grete, widow of David S. Cramer. Deeply mourned by her daughter Patricia, and grandchildren, Andrea and Marc. Funeral has taken place.

DALL - On December 11th, peacefully on holiday in France, Helena Amy (née McCormack), aged 83. Wife of the late Horace Dall and the late Thomas Thurley, beloved mother of Josephine, John and Helena. Lovingly remembered by her grandchildren and great grandchildren and sadly missed by her sisters, Ethel and Lily. Enquiries to F.G. Pyrum and Son, 65 Morrbridge Road, Maidenhead.

DIXON - On December 12th 1987, peacefully, Vera Sophie, aged 84, mother of Jane and Stephen. Funeral private.

EGGAR - On December 12th, peacefully at home Ralph Alfred James, Husband of Ann Gabrielle, father and grandfather. Funeral at Bentley Hampshire on December 17th at 3pm. Family flowers only please.

ELLIOT - On December 12th, peacefully after loving care from the staff of the I.W. Private Hospital, Helen Annabel, beloved wife of Ian and dearly loved mother of Jane. Funeral service at Holy Trinity, Cowes on Friday December 18th at 11.30am, followed by private cremation. Flowers to F.L. Lloyd, Bridge Road, Cowes, Isle of Wight.

FIELDEN - On December 12th 1987, in Halifax, West Yorks, Frances (née Edgar) aged 61 years, wife of the late J Henry Fielden, mother of Mary, Nancy and David, sister of Betty Boycott and Peter Edgar. Service at Halifax Parish Church on Thursday 17th December at 2.00 pm followed by interment at St Mary's Church Willingham, Cambridge on Friday 18th December at 1.00 pm. Family flowers only by her request. Donations may be made to R.S.P.C.A. Care of Mr R C Sutcliffe, Messrs Kilby Sutcliffe & Co., 10 Bradford Road, Brighouse, West Yorks. Will friends please accept this as the only intimation

FLETCHER - On December 10th 1987, peacefully in a Bournemouth Hospital, William Albert (musician and physiotherapist), aged 70 years. Cremation at Bournemouth Crematorium, on Friday 18th December at 11.30am. Flowers or donations to MacMillan Cancer Trust, c/o W. Smith and Sons, 639-645 Wimborne Road, Winton, Bournemouth, Dorset.

FORD - On December 11th 1987, Leslie Ford, M.D. S.R.C. Psych. Barrister at Law - Gray's Inn. Beloved husband of Mary, father of Nicola, Anthony and Angela. Much loved father-in-law and grandfather. Thanksgiving service at St. Peter's, Sheringham on Thursday December 17th at 3.00 pm. Family flowers. Donations in his memory may be sent to Cancer Research, Norfolk and Norwich Hospital, Norwich.

HARDY - On December 11th 1987, peacefully at Amberley Manor Nursing Home, Haslemere, Surrey, aged 85 years. Evelyn, formerly of Bramshott Court, Liphook, Hants. Funeral Mass at The Church of the Immaculate Conception, Headley Road, Liphook Hants, on Monday 21st December at 11.30 am, to be followed by private Burial. Flowers to G. M Luff & Partners, 84 Lion Lane, Haslemere, Surrey, 0428 3524.

HORNSTEIN - On December 13th 1987, very peacefully, Yanya, in his 86th year. Funeral service at St. Martin's Church, Dorking, on Thursday 17th December at 2pm. Flowers or donations to Amnesty International maybe sent to Sherlock & Sons, Trellis House, Dorking.

JACKSON - On December 7th, at The Boltons, Charles Terence Stonewall Jackson, late of Reading, Chancery Lane and St. Martins Lane. Husband of Hilda Dorothy, father of Patrick, Phillip and Sean. Now buried at Gunnersbury Crematorium. Enquiries to 22 Ashburnham Drive, Swansea.

JEAL - On December 11th, suddenly in London, Norah M.S. Jeal, mother of Thomasina and Tim. Funeral at Hampstead Cemetery, Fortune Green Road, NW6 on December 18th at 11.00 am.

LANGLEY - On December 12th, in hospital after a long illness, Claude Martin (Dick), beloved husband of Peggy and dad, Richard, Christopher and Nicholas, and loving grandfather of his five grandchildren. The funeral takes place at Guildford Crematorium on Thursday 17th December at 11.00 am. Family flowers only. Donations, if desired, to Farnham Road Hospital, Guildford.

LEE - On December 8th 1987, Osmund Robert, Lt RNVR, (retired), after short illness at the Sue Ryder Home, Nettlehed, aged 73 years. Loving husband of Vera, dearest father of Michael and Valerie, dear father-in-law of Jim and Suzie, Grandpa to Jamie and Jenna. Cremation to take place at East Hampstead Crematorium, Monday 14th December. Donations if desired to the Sue Ryder Home, Nettlehed, Henley-On-Thames, Oxfordshire.

LOCKHART - On December 11th, peacefully in Guernsey, aged 83 Anna Winifred Beatrix, widow of Artie and much loved mother of Charles, Brian and Caroline. Funeral at Catel Church on Wednesday December 16th.

MACKNESS - On December 11th 1987, Hilda Jessie, aged 92, late of South Avenue, Littleover, Derby, beloved wife of the late L.R. Mackness. Funeral Thursday 17th December, service 1.15 pm at Markeaton Crematorium, Derby. Flowers to G. Walhall & Son Ltd. 101 Macklin Street, Derby.

MOORE - On December 10th, peacefully, John William aged 81 of Lyme Regis. Dearly loved and loving husband of Marjorie, father of Patricia, father in law of Barry and grandfather of Josephine and Charlotte. Funeral service, Yeovil Crematorium, Wednesday December 16th at 2pm.

NICOLL - On December 11th 1987, suddenly Winifred, greatly beloved wife of Douglas and loving and beloved mother of Alexander and Jamie. Funeral service at Holybush Church near Ledbury, on Friday 18th December at 2 pm. Flowers and enquiries to B Hawcutt, Ledbury (0531) 2084.

NORTH - On December 13th, peacefully after a long but pain-free illness, John Montagu William aged 82, second son of the 8th Earl of Guilford. Greatly loved and sadly missed by his wife Wendy and all his family. Family cremation, followed by burial at All Saints, Waldersham. A memorial service will be held after Christmas and announced later. Donations, if desired, to the Royal National Lifeboat Institute, West Quay Road, Poole, Dorset BH15 1HZ.

PRICE - On Sunday December 13th 1987, at Nantwich after a short illness, aged 82, Constance Mary (née Walmsley) of Rhos-on-Sea, widow of David Price. Adored mother of Hazel, much loved mother-in-law of Kai, beloved 'Gramby' to Lars and Stan. Twin sister of the late Capt. W.H. (Bill) Walmsley of Solihull and Singapore. Loved by all her friends. She will sorely missed. Service and committal at Colwyn Bay Crematorium on Thursday December 17th at 1.30pm. Enquiries and flowers to Percy L. Roberts and Son, 4 Woodland Rd West, Colwyn Bay. (0492) 48351.

RAWSTORNE - On December 13th 1987, peacefully in her sleep, at home in Haselmere, Doris Enid, darling wife of Dick, and loving mother of Anne, Fiona and Laurence, and a dear and devoted grandmother. Funeral service at St. Bartholomews, Haslemere at 2.30 pm on Friday 18th December, to be followed by private Cremation. No flowers, donations if desired to The British Heart Foundation. Enquiries to G. M Luff & Partners, 84 Lion Lane, Haslemere, Surrey. 0428 3524.

ROBERTS - On December 12th, peacefully at The Brisehaun Unit, Sidney aged 80 years of Churston Ferrers, Brixham, Devon, husband of Gwen. Funeral Service at the Torquay Crematorium on Friday December 18th at 2.30pm. Family flowers only please. Donations if desired for the Brisehaun Unit may be sent to T.J.Stockman Funeral Directors, 64a Bolton Street, Brixham.

ROSCOE - On Friday December 11th, suddenly at his home in Holyhead, Air Commodore Peter H. Roscoe, C.B., F.C.A., R.A.F. (ret'd). Much loved brother of Dorothy Fawcett and good friend of his brother-in-law, Frank Fawcett. Cremation, 12 noon, Thursday 17th December at Bangor Crematorium. No flowers at his request. Donations, if desired, to R.A.F. Benevolent Fund.

ROSE - On December 12th 1987, peacefully at St Mary's Hospital, Eastbourne, Sussex, Ivy. Dear mother of Sue and Alan. Funeral service at Eastbourne Crematorium on Monday 21st December at 1.30 pm. No flowers but, if desired, donations to British Heart Foundation, c/o Hatse & Son Ltd. 19 South Street, Eastbourne.

SLADE - On December 11th, Felix William Slade, much loved husband of Olive, and previously of Joan, father of Catherine, Elizabeth, Frances and Charles. Cremation at West Herts Crematorium, High Elms Lane, Garston, near Watford on Thursday December 17th at 11.00 am. All inquiries Radlett (Herts) 2899

STERN - On December 9th, (Roberts née Tregear), suddenly but peacefully at home. Sara loving and much loved by Michael, Hugh, Miranda, family and friends.

STEWART - On Saturday December 5th, Jean, dancing teacher, sadly missed by all who knew her. Funeral will take place at Tunbridge Wells Crematorium, Benhall Mill Rd, on Wednesday 16th December at 2.30 pm. Flowers to W & F Groombridge, Tunbridge.

WEYL - On December 13th, peacefully, Rudolf (Rudy), in his 80th year. Dearly loved husband of Susi. Funeral private. No letters or flowers please.

WHELEN - On December 11th 1987, peacefully in a nursing home, Elizabeth, beloved mother of Christopher. Service, West London Crematorium, Thursday 17th December, 10 am

WRITMEE - On December 12th 1987, peacefully after a long illness, Kathleen Emma, aged 81. Much loved and sadly missed by family and friends. Family flowers only, donations to Cancer Research or North London Hospice, c/o J H Keaven Ltd., 6 Woodhouse Road, North Finchley, N12. Funeral service at St. Andrew's Church, Totteridge, N20 on Thursday 17th December 1987 at 12.30pm.

IN MEMORIAM - PRIVATE

FRAMPTON - Doris Gwennie, December 15th 1985. In loving memory of our mother and wife to Harold, Jeffrey and Paul.

HANCOCK - Dr Allen Coulter, M.C. and 2 Bars. Late R.A.M.C., 9th Division, Western Front 1914-1918. Remembered with affection by his family on this the 100th Anniversary of his birth. Died February 21st 1957.

MONIER-WILLIAMS - Maria - Angela who died 15th December 1985, lovingly remembered by her family.

PANTLIN - Charles William Rivers, born December 18th 1887, died January 8th 1978. Remembered with love by his family.

POWER - In memory of Sir William Power, K.C.B., born Dec. 15 1842, died July 28 1916.

ROSS - Alan Alistair (Angus) Ross O.B.E. December 15th 1984. Remembered today and every day with pride, gratitude and great love.

SILBERSTON - Phoebe, loving memories of darling mother. Gertrude Stulling.

PERSONAL COLUMNS

ANNOUNCEMENTS

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BIRTHDAYS

CHARLES BOWMAN is 18 today. Happy Birthday with love from Mum, Dad, James and Sarah.

MAXIE CHESSIS is 2 today. Love and kisses. Mummy, Daddy and Oliver.

RHODA Have a wonderful birthday, love Dr Hfurshwur.

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THE ARTS

TELEVISION

A decade of decay

A devastating half-hour look at inner city policy was provided by *Open Space* (BBC2), a compilation of items from more than 10 years of *Open Space* and its predecessor, *Open Door*.

From the general gist of the contributions it was difficult to disagree with the 1986 report of the Media Monitoring Group which gave *Open Space* a rating of 60 per cent left-wing bias and no discernible right-wing bias. But as real people were talking here, and compiling the programmes as well, there was no doubting their individual authenticity.

Tours around council estates (the black unlit corridors of *Internment in Divis* from Belfast in 1982 was the most depressing), a pre-Prince Charles exposé of conditions in Spitalfields in 1982, a look around Tolmers in 1975, and inner-city portraits of areas in Birmingham, Burnley, Croxteth in Liverpool and Wapping in London, all added up to a powerful indictment of councils which built the wrong housing, demolished the wrong streets, and failed to maintain the inadequate replacements.

Some characters from the old reports reappeared to muse on current developments — most tellingly in Docklands, where the in-rush of new money has increasingly left old inhabitants isolated. Some plucky individuals drove home the point that without constant, unrelenting action and pestering, nothing at all would have been achieved for ordinary tenants.

Replies from the bureaucracy were few and far between: a brief 1974 confrontation between officials and tenants on screen was inadequate to convey the complex passions involved in these disputes. The programme was a curtain-raiser to a debate about the future of housing, employment and social conditons in the inner cities, about which there is absolutely no fundamental agreement as ready-made solutions begin to be imposed.

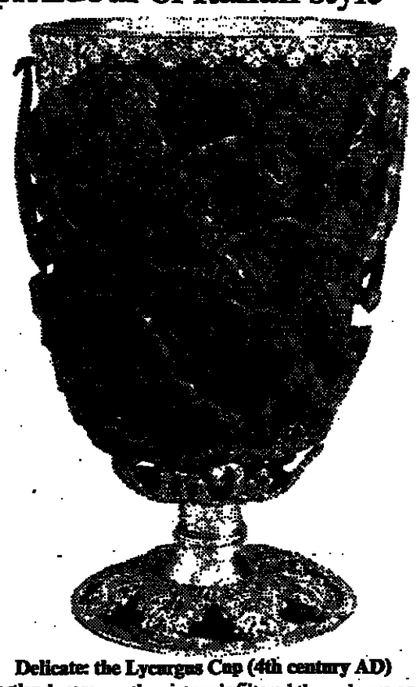
William Holmes

John Russell Taylor looks at two exhibitions which capture the splendour of Italian style

Glass that reflects the glories of the past



Exquisite: the Portland Vase (1st century BC)



Delicate: the Lycurgus Cup (4th century AD)

Glass of the Caesars
British Museum

Salvatore Ferragamo/The Image Multiplied
Victoria and Albert

It is often thought that the very serious, authoritative sort of survey-show that the British Museum usually goes in for can appeal to a mass public only if it features lots of gold and has the word "Treasures" in its title. If anything can disprove this assumption it must be Glass of the Caesars (until March 6).

True, there is a little gold here and there, but not enough to count; and considering their physical delicacy if nothing else, everything in the show must be accounted a treasure. But to succeed with the public, it must work almost entirely on sensuous appeal. There, it cannot fail.

The show, latest in a series sponsored by Olivetti, has just about every piece of Roman glass the non-specialist has heard of. It helps that two of these, the Portland Vase and the Lycurgus Cup, are in the BM's collection anyway. But we can also see the Morgan Cup from New York, the Lynceus Beaker from Cologne, the Disch Kantharos from Corning, and the Cameo Amphora from Naples. The first astonishing thing about the show is its extent and the number of complete or virtually complete pieces of ancient glass it contains. The next surprise is the show's unmistakable indication that there is nothing new under the sun. Practically all the techniques we are used to in modern art glass turn up before the 3rd century AD, and frequently in a highly sophisticated form. The virtuosity of the cameo glass is obvious: why else would the Portland Vase be so famous? But look again at the exquisitely-shaped container in the form of a bird, blown in blue glass during the 1st century and appearing more like something from the age of Brancusi. Or consider the beautiful colour effects of the blue glass jar from the 1st century, elegantly scattered with yellow and green specks.

The painted glass, like the bottle from Corning with lively figures of the gods and their intimates, is in a world of its own; so are the monumental pieces like the Populonia Bottle, with its exterior network of sea-front scenes ground with the greatest delicacy into the very pale green glass. Everywhere you look there is a feast of forms and colours sufficient to enliven even the most jaded eye.

It is not pure frivolity that makes one think of the *Glass of the Caesars* and the Victoria and Albert's Salvatore Ferragamo show (until February 2) in the same breath. Both are essentially Italian exhibitions, with Italian-designed catalogues in a sensible but chic chunky square format. And both achieve their effect by drawing our attention to individual works lovingly displayed one at a time. One can, of course, say that the Ferragamo is only about modern shoes, while the glass show is about priceless antiques. But not all the Roman glass was originally reserved for princes, and who would care to guarantee that even Salvatore Ferragamo's most ordinary shoes will not in another 1,500 or so years be looked at with the same awe we now reserve for the Portland vase and its fellows?



Art and sole: A shoe by Salvatore Ferragamo

In any case, there is no doubt of Ferragamo's supreme inventiveness. It instantly raises what might be just another design show into an exhibition of extraordinary art objects. Not for nothing did he begin his effective career in California, soon working for Griffith on *The Birth of a Nation* and De Mille on *The Ten Commandments*. When he returned to Europe and high fashion, he carried the histrionic flair with him: none of the shoes shown here can ever have gone unnoticed.

The V & A's other current big show, The Image Multiplied (until February 15), is more directly didactic. It requires a lot of care and attention to catch all the points it is making, but well repays a slow and watchful circuit. It is about the effects that seeing art in reproduction have on us — and have had for five centuries, ever since an early publisher undertook in 1467 to illustrate *Meditationes reverendissimi patris domini Johannis de Turre...* with woodcuts reproducing Fra Angelico's frescoes for the Roman church of Santa Maria sopra Minerva. After all, faced with an original like (to select a few which are included here) Constable's "Salisbury Cathedral from the Meadows", Frith's "Derby Day", Reynolds's "Mrs Musters as Hebe" or Landseer's "The Old Shepherd's Chief Mourner", how often do you find two people who come away with exactly the same impression? And when the idea of the picture is filtered through one or more printmakers before it reaches us, the situation is even more chancy.

The show begins and ends with a room filled entirely with variations on Leonard's "Last Supper", which should give anyone who thinks he knows the picture pause. Later on we have such choice examples of the filtering process as Hogarth's alternative versions of "Cruelty in Perfection", one etched and one woodcut; David Hockney's progressive working proofs, heavily commented, for a photographic colour reproduction of the Tate's "Mr and Mrs Clark and Percy"; versions of John Martin's "Belshazzar's Feast" by himself in mezzotint and by the Leighton Brothers in colour wood-engraving, a print which has the dubious honour of being the first ever colour picture in journalism when reproduced in the *Illustrated London News's* 1855 Christmas supplement.

> 'The forms and colours will enliven the most jaded eye'

Some of this might be frowned on by the purists, but by the end we shall probably have a clearer idea than ever before of what we are frowning on, and whether or not we are justified in doing so.

ROCK

From the farmers to fame

T'Pau
Hammersmith Odeon

Although the singer Carol Decker claimed otherwise, T'Pau looked anything but nervous about tackling their first ever date as the headlining act at Hammersmith Odeon. Indeed the group exercised a hard-hitting, streamlined professionalism in delivery that chimed perfectly with the American adult rock sound suggested by "China In Your Hand".

T'Pau's telescoped development, from a local Shrewsbury group playing at young farmers' socials, reflects the Darwinian nature of contemporary rock business practices.

As soon as Decker and her songwriting partner, the guitarist Ron Rogers, had secured a management contract, the rest of the original band were discarded in favour of more seasoned players who nevertheless do not rate a mention in their PR company's biography: Roy Thomas Baker, an early producer of Queen, was drafted in to produce the debut album, *Bridge of Spies*; an American choreographer has been on hand to teach Decker how to work the big stages.

Musically, of course, it is a shallow achievement, but then Decker and Rogers are not seeking to make any profound statements. Provided one expects nothing more than high quality bubblegum, the results are tolerable.

Decker's slight figure, topped with a mane of red hair, cut a dash of matriarchal authority as she sang in a voice of soaring though unvarying power. Rogers stood for the most part motionless, taking precise care with his rhythm guitar playing. The only other member to emerge from visual anonymity was the lead guitarist, Dean Howard.

The songs divided into predictable mid-tempo rockers like "Sex Talk" and "You Give Up", and ponderous, baroque ballads like "I Will Be With You" and the ubiquitous "China In Your Hand" which was played twice, with commendable accuracy. The only deviation was when Rogers sang a version of the Monkees' "I'm A Believer", a choice which put the cards on the table a little too openly for comfort. None of the material betrayed an awareness of musical developments much beyond 1975.

David Sinclair

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The poets' friend

Chris Peachment meets the founder and director of Carcanet Press, Michael Schmidt



Michael Schmidt: Manchester's only Mexican publisher?

Michael Schmidt may well be the only Mexican in British publishing. It is a racing certainty that he is the only snuff-taking Mexican publisher based in Manchester. "My father, whose family was originally from Saxony, was schooled in the United States and went to Mexico as a child in 1898," he explained. "I was schooled here, and also went to Oxford, but I have kept up my Mexican citizenship, so I am a true patriot." Trust a Mexican to speak good English.

At Oxford he began editing a small magazine, *Carcanet*, and decided to publish a few pamphlets of poetry as a swansong. They went surprisingly well. From there it just kept on going, and he now runs the Carcanet press with a staff of four-and-a-half and a list of 50 books a year. Its latest volume of English poetry, *The Various Art*, was recently described by Peter Ackroyd in *The Times* as the finest contemporary collection published in many years.

Originally divided into four parts, the list was composed of poetry, neglected poets, poet's prose, and poetry in translation, "mainly the classics, because everyone does the moderns. But I reached the age of 36 and realized that doing nothing but poetry becomes repetitious, so we added fiction. The great tragedy of modern publishing is that so few publishers are respecting their back lists. It is absurd that Faber have allowed Edwin Muir to go out of print. Vernon Watkins too. They may not be the tops, but they are important, and once they drop out of print, people do forget them. So it is a great pleasure for us to re-publish people like Ford Madox Ford, and H.D. (the imagist poet Hilda Doolitle)."

They first published H.D. in 1972, selling 80 copies, then 300 in the next year, and 600 the next. Most publishers would have cut their losses after the first year, but for Schmidt it is a question of loyalty. By sticking with her, the word of mouth spread, sales grew all the time, Virago picked up on her, and she is now regularly anthologized, which means a good income for Carcanet in subsidiary rights. In Schmidt's phrase: "She backlists well". Another good backlister is the American poet John Ashbery, dropped by Cape in the Sixties. Carcanet took him on in 1977 and he has by now sold around 9,000 copies.

Carcanet also publish C.H. Sisson, our most articulate conservative voice, and a poet who stands with Geoffrey Hill as the best now writing. Schmidt admits that Sisson has served as a guiding light for his judgement throughout most of the company's life. "He sent me *In The Trojan Ditch* in 1972, and I disliked the title. Then he sent me *Metamorphosis*, and I finally caught his rhythms. Like Geoffrey Hill, if you don't get the rhythms, then you don't get the poetry. I also found his social thought very interesting. As an old fashioned Johnsonian conservative, he has a respect for institutions, with which as a foreigner I can identify.

It is possibly Sisson's presence which has marked down Carcanet in the public mind as a right-wing press, but his influence is not as simple as it may appear. As befits the profession of high Toryism, he has a liberal attitude toward other persuasions. "If I send him a novel to read, he will return an assessment which is totally free of ideological bias. We published one radical Caribbean novelist, for example, on his advice.

When Sisson left his senior post in the civil service, he retired to Somerset. "Winters are very long down there," says Schmidt, "so I set him to translating Lucretius, then Dante and Virgil. We published his new volume *God Bless Karl Marx!* on November 5 with a celebration at the houses of Parliament. So November 5 is now C.H. Sisson's day."

If all of this makes Carcanet sound like the favourite backwater preserve of some wilting young fogey, this is a serious misapprehension. Among its many virtues is that it must be the last serious publisher in this country to pay more attention to its books than its balance sheet. Few inmates of the Groucho Club admit to any shame at pushing out yet another picture book of Marilyn Monroe; and the money thus piled up is rarely used to publish a less profitable author. In the flesh Schmidt is fast-spoken, enthusiastic and urgently engaged with any topic which touches upon importance in public or private life. He confesses to liking the "radical feminist enterprise", if only because it enthuses the students he teaches part-time at Manchester University. "It seems to be getting somewhere, but like the undigested Marxism of the Seventies, it is a good point of departure. Just so long as it's not the point of arrival."

LONDON DEBUTS

The Duo Tedesco Berlin, made up of Bernd Teichgraber (cello) and Christoph Niemann (double bass), had promised an adventurous programme with three British premières for their UK debut in the Purcell Room (Richard Fairman writes). The clear intention was to prove that their unusual combination of instruments could sustain an interesting programme. The recital told a different story.

Kelterborn's *Nocturne*, the only one with any serious intentions, severely out-stayed its welcome; while the other two searched in vain for a lighter touch. The most exasperating piece of all was by Niemann himself, a so-called "Classical Medley" with tiresome quotations from popular favourites, sewn together in the most tacky fashion.

As the players are clearly accomplished musicians (both are members of the orchestra of the Deutsche Oper Berlin), this part of the programme rather wasted their talents. A few arrangements of pieces originally written for other instruments showed their technical skills to better effect.

● Laura Stephenson is a mezzo of vocal and personal charm as well as musical instinct, and a winning way with the French and English songs to which she confined her programme (Noël Goodman writes). Her "Celebration of Song", with pianist Adrian Hobbs, was given to support the Council for Music in Hospitals.

They began with a bright idea new to me: an introductory item not on the programme so that latecomers should have that much extra grace. The main focus was on two groups of *Sept Chansons*, by Enesco and Poulenc respectively, and on Britten's *A Charm of Lullabies*. The singer endowed each group with attractive warmth of tone and phrasing. Her work with Kent Opera perhaps accounts for her feeling for verbal character, but some further clarity of words would not come amiss.

هكذا من الأصل

Winterhalter wonderland or lashings of Lacroix: festive season revellers are choosing their weapons in a style war

Behind party lines

This winter frou-frou fun does battle with the grand romance of the 19th century. Meredith Etherington-Smith takes cover









Above left: Valentine Walsh at the Winterhalter Ball in lilac taffeta from Murray Arbeid, trimmed for the occasion with black lace. Right: Sandra Stowell in white satin and tulle with a blue ribbon bow





Above: At the Winterhalter Ball, Oriel Calloway wears a home-made dress based on a Marks & Spencer long-line bra with added lace and bows. She is with Oliver Harwood, her brother. Right: Alisa Modet, with John Lloyd-Morgan, wears her grandmother's black and white striped crinoline with a black and beige Spanish shawl. *Winterhalter photographs by DESMOND O'NEILL.*

Above left: On the frou-frou front, Francesca Thyssen with Antony Price at the Capricorn Ball, wearing Price couture. Right: Olivia Valere wearing Ungaro at the "Best" dinner at the Halcyon Hotel. *Photographs by RICHARD YOUNG and ALAN DAVIDSON*

There was a time when the Englishwoman was only well dressed in a grouse butt, draped in camouflage tweeds, or in brocade at grand balls, when the family tiara (dirty diamonds) came into play, perched on lacquered curls. Then came *Dynasty*. Suddenly, after dark, the Englishwoman became an anorexic triangle of hugely padded shoulders and suicidally short skirts.

But this winter, at parties from Chelsea to Stockwell, Mayfair to Hampstead, Devon to Inverness-shire, whether at charity ball, private dance or cocktail party, the Englishwoman has been taking sides in the Party War. It's a war between a living designer, Christian Lacroix (the hottest in Paris), and a dead court painter. For Lacroix's puffballs and frou-frous are slugging it out against Francis Xavier Winterhalter's grand romantic 19th-century dresses.

The Winterhalter coterie is spearheaded by the Princess of Wales. No slouch when it comes to dressing for a photograph, the Princess has adopted the fashion language of her grandmother-in-law and gone for the classic royal Winterhalter look: sinfully coloured satins deeply draped, chokers (real), portrait necklines revealing the perfect royal shoulders, a hint of regal bosom, and no leg in sight.

The Lacroix stormtroopers, on the other hand, have thrown themselves with abandon into taffeta and velvet puffballs, which stop so far short of decent reticence that some of the more adventurous are in danger of getting housemaid's knee from over-exposure to the elements. The look may have started with Lacroix, but it is now to be found in other designers' shops and high street chains; for some examples, see the illustrations (right).

The first salvo was fired at the Anglo-Spanish Ball, a very aristocratic event at Syon House (prop: the Duke of Northumberland) where the Princess of Wales cast her vote for Winterhalter in Victor Edelstein's dragonfly-green duchesse satin dress. The portrait collar revealed just the right amount of creamy royal shoulder and the skirt was swathed into a busy bustle.

Not to be outdone, the Duchess of York turned out at the Leukaemia Ball at the Café Royal in a spotted dress which could vaguely be described as the "Elizabeth Empress of Austria Goes Hunting" look. Sticking to the fine print on her contract, Joan Collins remained true to last year's *Dynasty* glitz in a sweetheart neckline set off by huge sequinned sleeves.

Lacroix aficionados fought back at the Capricorn Ball in the trendy Café de Paris last week. Black looks were the order of the day here. Black sequins. Black chiffon. Black leather. Pink came second. Pink puffball skirts exploded out from under shawls, blazers, and white mink chubbies (short furs). Many of the dresses looked as if their wearers were just about to *fall out of the top of them*. Even more looked as if the Lacroix-copyists had run out of taffeta 10 inches above the knee.

George Hamilton, the man who gave new meaning to the all-year-round suntan, had a pretty female accessory on his arm in a classic Lacroix turnout: strapless black velvet with a black taffeta puffball skirt. And going far, far further, another guest wore her version of the New Lacroix ball dress. It's the one which is 10 inches above the knee and below the bosom in front and trails the ground at the back. Meanwhile, Lord Lisley flew the royal flag in a flower-power-revisited brocade Nehru jacket, while Constant Companion Sasannah Constantine sported a black leather biker's jacket over a minimalist white lace skirt from Whistles.

A more sombre note with serious Italian undertones was struck at Roberto Devorik's black-tie cocktail party for favourite *designer Gianfranco Ferré*. Here, on a Sunday night, assembled fashionettes had decided to get themselves together, forget their TV suppers and play it smooth and sophisticated . . . in black. What else? Black Chanel for the young in heart and the fat of wallet. Black Victor. Black Yves. And, of course, black Ferré. Cool, tailored, and not very English (the diamonds were clean).

Undeterred, the *Winterhalter* coterie swung into action again at the White Dove Ball. This time the Duchess of Gloucester flew the colours in a pretty midnight blue chiffon dress with Winterhalterish silver spangles. But here the most elegant party-goer was Michael Alexander, attired in a midnight blue velvet smoking jacket, who admitted he had bought it for £8 in the Portobello Road and that its last owner had been Godfrey Winn, a senior gossip columnist in the Fifties.

Winterhalter finally won out at, of course, the Winterhalter Ball in *aid of the National Portrait Fund*, at the Reform Club last Saturday. Puffballs were left in their cupboards and yesterday's Lacroix baby dolls became 19th-century royalty in seductively swaying crinolines. Suddenly, everyone seemed to have a great deal more hair than usual. Women looked prettier and men, in white tie, tails and decorations, looked more handsome. Yards and yards and yards of lace and tulle and ribbons swayed and dipped to the 20-strong orchestra. Feathers and roses were wound into intricately pleated and plaited hair. Not only were there no legs in sight, but the Winterhalterites seemed as if they were not walking but floating across the Reform Club's floors.

Suddenly, that deeply held conviction on the part of the French that the Englishwoman only really looks good in the grandest of all possible ball dresses made a great deal of sense.

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Meredith Etherington-Smith is features editor of Harpers & Queen. *Liz Smith is on holiday*







Above: *Black georgette* off-the-shoulder gypsy top, £24.99; black georgette skirt, £39.99, also available in red and ankle length from Warehouse, 19-21 Argyll Street, W1, and branches

Above left: Lilac draped muslin halter neck top, £230, also available in *petrol, beige or grey*; apricot pastel petal skirt in silk muslin, £370, also available in yellow, petrol, beige or grey, both by Jasper Conran, 37 Beauchamp Place, SW3

Left: Black velvet jacket with military style gold buttons and mandarin collar with bottle green, black and yellow tartan taffeta puffball skirt, £480, by Gilles Dewavrin; Liberty, Regent Street, W1

Far left: Midnight blue *taffeta double-breasted* jacket with shawl collar, £39.99, with matching taffeta skating skirt with net underskirt, £27.99, also available in red, silver or emerald by Monix; Fenwicks of Bond Street, W1, Brent Cross and Newcastle; First, 11 Leather Lane, EC1; Mango, St Leonards Road, Windsor and Kings Street, Maidenhead

Illustrations by JOHN BABBAGE

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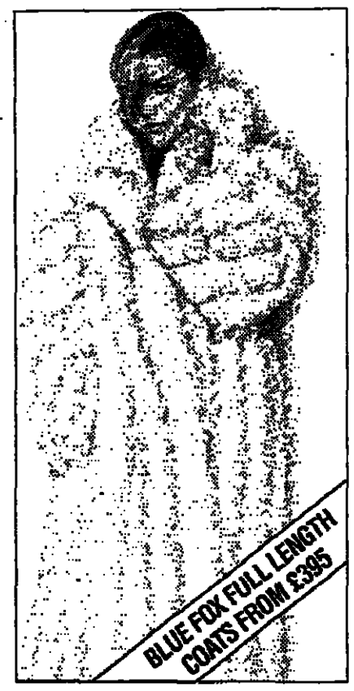
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THEATRE

LONDON

☆ **ACTING SHAKESPEARE:** Ian McKellen plays Hamlet, Falstaff, Romeo, Juliet and many more in award-winning solo show. Four weeks only. All proceeds to the London Lighthouse AIDS Hospice.
Playhouse Theatre, Northumberland Avenue, WC2 (01-839 4401). Tube: Embankment. Mon-Thurs 8-10pm, Fri and Sat 6.30-8.30pm and 9-11pm, £4-£14. (D)

☆ **BEAUTY AND THE BEAST:** New version in trad style by David Cregan.
Theatre Royal, Gerry Raffles Square, E15 (01-534 0310). Tube: Stratford East. Mon-Sat 2.15-4.15pm and 7.15-9.15pm, £3-£5.50, children £1.50-£4. (D)

☆ **BETWEEN EAST AND WEST:** Sheila Allen and John Woodvine play two Czech dissidents facing the freedom of the US.
Hampstead Theatre, Swiss Cottage, NW3 (01-722 9301). Tube: Swiss Cottage. Previews tonight 8-10.15pm, £5, opens tomorrow 7-9.15pm. Then Mon-Sat 8-10.15pm, mat Sat 4.30-6.45pm, £6-£7.

☆ **THE FOREIGNER:** See caption.
Albery Theatre, St Martin's Lane WC2 (01-836 3878). Tube: Leicester Square. Tonight 7-9.30pm, £3-£11.50. Then Mon-Sat 8-10.30pm, mats Thurs and Sat 3-5.30pm, £5-£13.50. (D)

☆ **THE IMPORTANCE OF BEING EARNEST:** Dame Hilda Bracket bestows upon us her Lady Bracknell and Dr Evadne Hinge offers her Miss Prism in a cunning adaptation of Mr Wilde's original.
Whitehall Theatre, Whitehall, SW1 (01-930 7765). Tube: Charing Cross/Embankment. Mon-Fri 8-10.15pm, Sat 8.15-10.30pm, mats Wed 3-5.15pm and Sat 5-7.15pm. £8.50-£13.50.

☆ **LETTICE AND LOVAGE:** Maggie Smith and Margaret Tyzack waging eccentric war against the modern world in Peter Shaffer's new comedy.
Globe Theatre, Shaftesbury Avenue, W1 (01-437 3667). Tube: Piccadilly Circus. Mon-Sat, 7.45-10.15pm, mats Sat 3-5.30pm, £7.50-£14.50.

☆ **OUTBREAK OF GOD IN AREA 9:** Divine intervention in the lives of our cultural leaders; scurrilous report by Ken Campbell's troupe of zanies.
Young Vic, 66 The Cut, SE1 (01-928 6363). Tube: Waterloo. Mon-Sat 7.30-9.30pm, £7.50.

☆ **SEPARATION:** David Suchet and Saskia Reeves as playwright and actress in Tom Kempinski's two-hander, transferred from Hampstead.
Comedy Theatre, Panton Street SW1 (01-930 2578). Tube: Piccadilly Circus. Mon-Thurs 8-10.15pm, Fri and Sat 6-8.15pm and 8.45-11pm, £4-£13.50. (D)

☆ **SPECULATORS:** The RSC's answer to *Serious Money*: the class of 1988 exploits the City.
The Pit, Barbican Centre EC1 (01-638 8891). Tube: Barbican/Moorgate. Tonight 7-9.15pm, £7.50. (D)

☆ **STARS:** An Early Stages transfer from the RSC: Stephen Lowe's romantic comedy, set in a wartime cinema.
Waterman's Arts Centre, 40 High Street, Brentford (01-568 1176). Station: Kew Bridge. Dec.15, 17-20, 22, 23, Jan 2-6, 8.0pm, £3.

☆ **THE WIZARD OF OZ:** Imelda Staunton sets off on the Yellow Brick Road. RSC Christmas show with all the celebrated songs plus others cut from the film.
Barbican Theatre, Barbican Centre EC2 (01-638 8891). Tube: Barbican/Moorgate. Previews today and tomorrow, 7.30-9.30pm, opens Thurs 7-9pm. Then Mon-Sat 7.30-9.30pm, mats Tues, Thurs and Sat 2.30-4.30pm. £7-£14.50, children £5-£9. (D)

☆ **YOU NEVER CAN TELL:** Toby Robertson's starry Shaw, with Michael Hordern, Irene Worth, Michael Denison.
Haymarket Theatre, Haymarket SW1 (01-930 9832). Tube: Piccadilly Circus. Previews until Thurs, 7.30-10.30pm, opens Fri, 7.10pm. Then Mon-Sat 7.30-10.30pm, mats Wed and Sat 3-6pm, £7.50-£14.50. (D)

LONG RUNNERS: ☆ **Beyond Reasonable Doubt:** Queens Theatre (01-734 1166). . . ☆ **The Business Of Murder:** Mayfair Theatre (01-629 3036). . . ☆ **Cats:** New London Theatre (01-405 0072, cc 01-404 4079). . . ☆ **Chess:** Prince Edward Theatre (01-734 8951). . . ☆ **Follies:** Shaftesbury Theatre (01-379 5399). . . ☆ **42nd Street:** Drury Lane Theatre Royal (01-836 8108/9/0). . . ☆ **High Society:** Victoria Palace Theatre (01-834 1317). . . ☆ **Les Liaisons Dangereuses:** Ambassadors Theatre (01-836 6111, cc 01-836 1171). . . ☆ **Me And My Girl:** Adelphi Theatre (01-240 7913/4) . . . ☆ **Les Misérables:** Palace Theatre (01-434 0909). . . ☆ **The Mousetrap:** St Martin's Theatre (01-836 1443) . . ☆ **Nunsense:** Fortune Theatre (01-836 2238). . . ☆ **Phantom Of The Opera:** Her Majesty's Theatre (01-839 2244). . . ☆ **Run For Your Wife:** Criterion Theatre (01-930 3216). . . ☆ **Serious Money:** Wyndhams Theatre (01-836 3028). . . ☆ **Starlight Express:** Apollo Victoria (01-828 8665). . . ☆ **And Then There Were None:** Duke of York's Theatre (01-836 5122).

OUT OF TOWN

CROYDON: ☆ **The Servant of Two Masters:** Musical version of Goldoni's masterpiece.
Warehouse, 62 Dingwall Road, East Croydon (01-680 4060), Tues-Sat 8pm, £2.50-£4.75.

LEICESTER: ☆ **Fat Pig:** Spectacular musical show: sentimental but with great circus acts.
Haymarket Theatre, Belgrave Gate (0533 539797), Mon-Sat 7.30pm, £3-£9.50.

STRATFORD: ☆ **Twelfth Night:** Straightforward production in Greek maze setting; Antony Sher is an eye-rolling Malvolio.
Royal Shakespeare Theatre, Stratford (0789 295623). Tonight 7.30-10pm, £5-£15.50.

STRATFORD: ☆ **The Jew of Malta:** New production of Marlowe's tragedy, directed by Barry Kyle, with Phil Daniels, Barrie Rutter and Janet Amsbury.
Swan Theatre, Stratford (0789 295623). Tonight 7.30pm, £3-£13.



Nicholas Lyndhurst (above) is best known as a young star of television sitcom — he was Wendy Craig's son in *Butterflies*, Del's kid brother in *Only Fools and Horses* and Janet Dibley's boyfriend in *The Two Of Us*. Now he makes his West End stage debut in *The Foreigner* (see listing), a comedy by Larry Shue author of *The Nerd*, which arrives in Britain after a three-year run in New York. Lyndhurst plays a timid tourist in the United States struck down by nerves.



Ros Drinkwater

The failure in the UK of Sting's last single, "We'll Be Together", may be regarded as the merest hiccup in his inexorable rise to world-wide prominence as a solo performer. The song is near the top of the chart in America and comes from the No 1 album *Nothing Like The Sun*. The 36-year-old singer, composer, bass player, guitarist and actor who started life as plain Gordon Sumner from Wallsend, near Newcastle, became an unlikely fellow-traveller on the punk handwagon of 1977 when, together with the drummer Stewart Copeland and the guitarist Andy Summers, he used that period of musical ferment as a springboard for launching the Police. Since the trio's informal dissolution, roughly three years ago, Sting has balanced perfectly his desire to experiment and progress as a musical performer with the commercial imperatives of a rapidly expanding adult and CD-orientated rock market place. He continues to surround himself on stage with the best young jazz players money can buy, harnessing their skills in the service of his breezy, pop-philosophy statements. Sting appears tonight, tomorrow, Friday, Saturday and Sunday at Wembley Arena, Empire Way, Middlesex (01-902 1234). Doors open at 7pm, show starts at 8pm; £10.50-£12.50. The proceeds of Sunday's performance will go to the charity SANE (Schizophrenia: A National Emergency), formed after a campaign in *The Times* last year.
David Sinclair

FILMS

■ **Also on national release**
☒ **Advance booking possible**

BEST SELLER (18): Police thriller with a wobbly plot but impressive performances from Brian Dennehy (as the cop plagued by an unsolved case) and James Woods (a cold-blooded mystery man). Directed by John Flynn; with Victoria Tennant (95 min).
Leicester Square Theatre (01-930 7615). Progs 1.15, 3.40, 6.10, 8.50.

BIG FOOT AND THE HENDERSONS (PG): A suburban family return from camping with hairy terrestrial. Tired variation on *E.T.* from Steven Spielberg's company. With John Lithgow, and Melinda Dillon; directed by William Dear (111 min).
Plaza (01-437 1234). Progs 1.00, 3.30, 6.00, 8.30, 11.15.

CRY FREEDOM (PG): Richard Attenborough's bumper bundle of exciting spectacle and liberal sentiments; with Kevin Kline as journalist Donald Woods, drawn into the case of South African activist Steve Biko (Denzel Washington) (158 min).
☒ **Empire Leicester Square** (01-437 1234). Progs 2.00, 5.30, 8.30.

■ **DIRTY DANCING (18):** Filmsy but energetic coming-of-age saga, with Jennifer Grey as the headstrong girl losing her innocence at a Borscht Belt resort. With Patrick Swayze and Jerry Orbach. Directed by Emile Ardolino (88 min).
Cannon Baker Street (01-935 9772). Progs 1.45, 4.00, 6.15, 8.30. (D)
Cannon Panton Street (01-930 0631). Progs 2.30, 4.55, 7.20, 9.45.

■ **HOPE AND GLORY (15):** John Boorman's autobiographical account of an ordinary family living through the extraordinary days of the London blitz. Vivid, anecdotal; with Sebastian Rice-Edwards and Sammi Davis (113 min).
Cannon Panton Street (01-930 0631). Progs 2.20, 4.50, 7.30, 9.55.

THE KITCHEN TOTO (15): Writer-director Harry Hook makes an impressive debut with this observant drama about a bewildered young servant during Kenya's fight for independence. With Bob Peck and Phyllis Logan (97 min).
Cannon Tottenham Court Road (01-636 6148). Progs 1.55, 4.05, 6.20, 8.30.

LITTLE DORRIT (U): Worthy and painstaking Dickens adaptation in two three-hour parts with newcomer Sarah Pickering as the daughter born in a debtor's prison. Derek Jacobi as the troubled hero, and a lengthy cast of notables. Written, edited, designed and directed by Christine Edzard (180 min).
Curzon West End (01-439 4805). Progs: Part one: Fri, Sat, Tues, Thurs 2.30; and Fri, Mon, Wed 7.30. Part two: Mon and Wed 2.30; Sat, Sun, Tues and Thurs 7.30.

■ **MAURICE (15):** Set before the First World War, E M Forster's novel about Oxbridge gaiety, with James Wilby as the suffering Maurice and Rupert Graves as the gamekeeper with whom he falls in love (140 min).
Cannon Fulham Road (01-370 2636). Progs 2.00, 5.50, 9.00.
Cannon Shaftesbury Avenue (01-836 6279). Progs 2.15, 5.35, 8.45.

■ **ROXANNE (PG):** *Cyrano de Bergerac* reworked by and for Steve Martin, as a fire chief whose nose seems to prevent true love (107 min).
Cannon Chelsea (01-352 5096). Progs 2.25, 5.20, 8.05.
Cannon Oxford Street (01-636 0310). Progs 1.30, 3.35, 6.00, 8.20.
Cannon Royal (01-930 6915). Progs 1.40, 3.40, 6.00, 8.20.

CONCERTS

LUNCHTIME

☆ **ROSKELL RECITAL:** The pianist Penelope Roskell plays Bach's Partita No 5, *Sonya's Lullaby* by Oliver Knussen and Bartók's collection of Rumanian Christmas Carols.
St Martin-in-the-Fields, Trafalgar Square, London WC2 (01-839 1930), 1.05-2pm, free. (D)

EVENING

☆ **KOBAYASHI CONCERT:** Junko Kobayashi plays Takemitsu's *Piano Distance*, Bach's French Suite No 5 and Chopin and Liszt groups.
Purcell Room, South Bank, London SE1 (01-928 3191, cc 01-928 8800), 7.30pm, £2.50, £4.

☆ **SCHUBERT ENDS:** Alfred Brendel brings his memorable cycle of late Schubert piano works to an end with the last three sonatas, D 958-60.
Royal Festival Hall, South Bank, London SE1 (01-928 3191, cc 01-928 8800), 7.30-9.50pm, £3-£15. (D)

☆ **MORE MESSIAH:** The Sixteen Choir and Orchestra, with soloists and conducted by Harry Christopher, give the third in their series of performances of Handel's popular work.
St John's, Smith Square, London SW1 (01-222 1061), 7pm, £5-£12.

☆ **CHRISTMAS BACH:** Ian Humphris conducts the National Westminster Choir, London Bach Orchestra and soloists in a complete performance of Bach's three-hour Christmas Oratorio.
Barbican Centre, Silk Street, London EC2 (01-628 8795, cc 01-638 8891), 7-10pm, £3-£7.50. (D)

☆ **FINNICO TRIOS:** From Helsinki comes the Trio Finnico to give us Beethoven's Piano Trio Op 70 No 2, Mendelssohn's Trio Op 49, Copland's interesting *Vitebsk*, and Shostakovich's Trio Op 67.
Wigmore Hall, 36 Wigmore Street, London W1 (01-935 2141), 7.30pm, £2.50-£5.

☆ **ST JOHN'S STRAUSS:** The Orchestra of St John's presents Richard Strauss's *Metamorphosen*, Sextet and the Countess's Aria (Alison Hargan, soprano) from *Capriccio* and his Horn Concerto No.1 (soloist Richard Todd). John Lubbock conducts.
Queen Elizabeth Hall, South Bank, London SE1 (01-928 3191, cc 01-928 8800), 7.45pm, £3.50-£7. (D)

OPERA

☆ **LA VIE PARISIENNE:** Return of Scottish opera's festive Offenbach production, conducted by John Pryce-Jones.
Theatre Royal, Theatre Square, Glasgow (041 331 1234), 7.15-10.15pm, £2.50-£12.

☆ **BARBER OF SEVILLE:** Jonathan Miller's *commedia dell'arte*-inspired production draws fine performances from Alan Opie in the title role and Della Jones as Rosina. James Holmes now conducting.
English National Opera, Coliseum, St Martin's Lane, London WC2 (01-836 3161), 7.30-10.30pm, £2-£21.50. (D)

☆ **CARMEN:** New production by Richard Jones opens at Opera North, with Cynthia Buchan promising much in the title role and Dennis O'Neill as Don Jose.
Grand Theatre, New Briggate, Leeds (0532 459351), 7.15-10.30pm, £3.80-£17.80.

JAZZ

☆ **SIMON PURCELL:** The gifted, Trinity-trained pianist is accompanied by bassist Steve Watts.
Jazz Café, 56 Newington Green, London N16 (01-359 4936), 8.30pm, free.

TOP 10 UK SINGLES

1	(4)	**Always On My Mind**	Pet Shop Boys, Parlophone
2	(2)	**When I Fall In Love**	Rick Astley, RCA
3	(3)	**The Way You Make Me Feel**	Michael Jackson, Epic
4	(9)	**Love Letters**	Alison Moyet, CBS
5	(1)	**China In Your Hand**	T'Pau, Siren
6	(13)	**Rockin' Around The Christmas Tree**	Mel and Kim, 10 Records'
7	(5)	**What Do You Want To Make Those Eyes at Me For?**	Shakin' Stevens, Epic
8	(19)	**Fairytale of New York**	Pogues/MacColl, Pogue Mahone
9	(15)	**The Look of Love**	Madonna, Sire
10	(11)	**Who Found Who**	Jellybean/Fiorillo, Chrysalis

TOP 10 UK ALBUMS

1	(1)	**Now That's What I Call Music 10**	Various, EMI/Virgin
2	(2)	**Hits 7**	Various, CBS/WEA
3	(3)	**Whenever You Need Somebody**	Rick Astley, RCA
4	(6)	**Bad**	Michael Jackson, Epic
5	(4)	**All The Best!**	Paul McCartney, Parlophone
6	(5)	**Bridge of Spies**	T'Pau, Siren
7	(7)	**The Singles**	Pretenders, Real
8	(9)	**Tango In The Night**	Fleetwood Mac, Warner Brothers
9	(15)	**Always Guaranteed**	Cliff Richard, EMI
10	(8)	**The Best of UB40 Vol I**	UB40, Virgin

Compiled by Gallup for Music Week/BBC/BPI

☆ **EDUARDO NIEBLA/ANTONIO FORCIONE:** Guitar duo whose Virgin LP, *Celebration*, is well worth a listen. Expect big things from them in '88.
Four Bare Inn, Castle Street, Cardiff (0222 374982), 8.30pm, £3.50.

ROCK

☆ **SIMPLY RED:** Currently enjoying chart success with an over-ambitious rendering of the Cole Porter standard "Ev'ry Time We Say Goodbye".
NEC, Birmingham (021 780 4133) doors open 6.30pm, £7-£8, for two nights.

☆ **BIG COUNTRY:** A low-key tour by the celtic twin-guitar quartet.
Rock City, 6 Talbot Street, Nottingham (0602 412544) 8pm, £7.

☆ **BRYAN ADAMS:** The Canadian arena-rocker on splendid form.
G-Mex, City Centre, Manchester (061 834 0123) 6pm, £9.

☆ **THE FATBACK BAND:** "I Found Lovin'" was their biggest-selling record yet in the UK, despite the absence of a major label deal.
Wimins, Bishops Road, Peterborough (0733 64861) 7.30pm, £6.50.

☆ **THE HAPPY END:** 22-piece brassy band promising "Songs of struggle and oppression from round the world."
ICA, The Mall, London SW1 (01-930 3647) 8p 1, £4 (+ 60p membership) for five nights.

GALLERIES

M.A. TEXTILES: An exhibition of work by post-graduates at Birmingham Polytechnic.
Africa Centre, 38 King Street, London WC2 (01-836 1973), daily 10.30-6.30pm, free, until Thurs only.

BILL CULBERT: Sculptures in light.
Cornerhouse, 70 Oxford Street, Manchester (061 228 7621), Tues-Sun 12-8pm, free, until Dec 31.

DEXTER DALWOOD, ALEXANDER GUY AND EMMA ROSE: Works by three promising young painters.
Patoe Gallery, 2 Langley Court, London WC2 (01-379 7854), Tues-Sat 11-6pm, free, until Jan 23.

DIEGO RIVERA: Easel paintings by the Mexican muralist.
Hayward Gallery, South Bank, Belvedere Road, London SE1 (01-261 0127), Mon-Wed 10-8pm, Thurs-Sat 10-6pm, Sun 12-6pm, £3 until Jan 10.

EL DIA DE LOS MUERTOS: Ceramics and artifacts used by Mexicans during their macabre festival called the Day of the Dead.
Serpentine Gallery, Kensington Gardens, London W2 (01-402 6075), daily 10-6pm, free, until Jan 10.

THE NEWCASTLE GROUP: A survey of work, beginning in 1820, of past and present members including famous apostate Victor Pasmore and sculptor Fred Watson.
Laing Art Gallery, Higham Place, Newcastle upon Tyne (091 232 7734), Mon-Fri 10-5.30pm, Sat 10-4.30pm, Sun 2.30-5.30pm, free, until Jan 24.

TALKS

INTENTION AND REALITY: John Ilett, vice-chairman, Tameside and Glossop Health Authority, talks on the future of the National Health Service.
CIS Ltd, Miller Street, Manchester (061 832 8686), 5.30pm, free.

HANS CHRISTIAN ANDERSEN: Karin Fernald presents a slide show and talk about Hans Christian Anderson for eight-year-olds and over.
British Museum Lecture Theatre, Great Russell Street, London WC1 (Info: 01-323 7595), 1.15pm, free.

WALKS

OLD COCKNEY QUARTER: meet Whitechapel tube, 11am, £3.

HIDDEN INTERIORS OF BYGONE LONDON: meet Temple tube, 11am, £3.

POLITICAL LONDON: meet Embankment tube, 11.30am, £2.50.

IN THE FOOTSTEPS OF CHARLES DICKENS: meet Holborn tube, 2pm, £2.50.

ANCIENT INNS AND TAVERNS OF OLD LONDON: meet Temple tube, 7pm, £3.

OTHER EVENTS

CHRISOPHER FRY READINGS: To honour the dramatist and poet's 80th birthday, readings and tributes in his presence by Dorothy Tutin, George Baker, Bernard Hepton, Sally Home, Martin Bax, Robert Gittings, Edward Lowbury and Ted Walker.
National Poetry Centre, 21 Earl's Court Square, London SW5 (01-370 6929), 7.30pm, £2.50.

CHRISTIE'S SALES: English drawings, watercolours and architectural drawings and The Bearsted Collection of Netsuke, both at 11am; Fine swords, sword fittings, Netsuke, Kiseruzutsu and other Sagemono, 2.30pm.
Christie's, 8 King Street, St James's, London SW1 (01-839 9060).

A THOUSAND ROBINS: Scottish sculptor George Wylie and art students from Port Glasgow have produced a montage of models of our national bird which will be mounted on the exterior of the Assembly Rooms today and accompanied by taped birdsong.
Assembly Rooms, George Street, Edinburgh. Until early Jan.

CHRISTMAS CAROLS AND READINGS: Readers include Lord Havers, Dame Wendy Hiller, Sue MacGregor and Prunella Scales. In aid of the Parkinsons Disease Society.
St Marylebone Parish Church, Marylebone Road, London NW1 (01-823 1174), 6pm, £3.

BOOKINGS

FIRST CHANCE

SOUTH BANK IN FEBRUARY: Highlights include premières of works by Esa-Pekka Salonen, Edison Denisov, Kondo's *Res Sonorae*, and Nigel Osborne's *Stone Garden*. Also Glyndebourne concert performance of *Porgy and Bess*; Alternative Valentine Special of amorous songs from Purcell to Grainger; Giles Swayne's *Cry for 28 Amplified Voices*; and programme to celebrate Handel's birthday.
South Bank Concert Halls, London SE1 (01-928 3191, cc 01-928 8800, info 01-928 3002). Advance booking now. General booking from Jan 5/6.

TOWARDS THE LIGHT: Bryden Thomson conducts Scottish National Orchestra in Thomas Wilson's orchestral introit, a BBC commission. Jan 29/30.
Edinburgh Usher Hall (031 228 1155/6) **Glasgow City Hall** (041 227 5015/5511)

LAST CHANCE

NIGEL HALL: Decorative bronze abstract sculptures.
Annely Juda Fine Art, 11 Tottenham Mews, London W1 (01-637 5517) until Fri.

SANDRO CHIA: New paintings by a fashionable modern Italian painter and mythologist.
Fischer Fine Art, 30 King Street, London SW1 (01-839 3942) until Fri.

Theatre: Jeremy Kingston; Films: Geoff Brown; Concerts: Max Harrison; Opera: Hilary Finch; Rock: David Sinclair; Jazz: Clive Davis; Dance: John Percival; Galleries: David Lee; Walks and Talks: Greta Cassiaw; Other Events: Judy Froshaug; Bookings: Anne Whitehouse.

WORD-WATCHING

Answers from page 22

(a) The "cutting in half" of a word by insertion of another, as in *absobloodylutely*.
PAPAPHOBIA
(c) Intense and irrational fear of the pope and popery.
ENORMITY
(a) A monstrous and unforgivable offence, from the Latin for "away from the carpenter's square, or norm". The word you are looking for is enormousness, dammit.
NEBBISH
(c) A person without charm or interesting qualities, from Yiddish, ultimately Czech *nebohy*.

ENTERTAINMENTS

CONCERTS

BARBICAN HALL 638 8891/628 8795 Tue't 7.00 3 8 both CHRISTMAS CREATIONS. National Westminster Choir, London Bach Orchestras. Ian Hamatsu (cond).

EXHIBITIONS

EMPERORS TERRACOTTA WARRIORS. Royal Horticultural Society's Old Hall, Vincent Square, SW1. £4.50 Adults, £3 child. 09.30 - 21.00 except Tuesday 09.30 - 18.00. W/c 10.00 - 21.00 December 14th - Feb 20th. Tel: 01-828-2758.

OPERA & BALLET

COLISEUM 5 836 3161 CC 240 7200/379 4444 **ENGLISH NATIONAL OPERA.** Tom't 7.30 The Barber of Seville. Tomor 7.30 Hansel & Gretel.

ROYAL OPERA HOUSE 240 1066/1911. Sadly info 836 6903. S CC. 65 amphl seats avail on the day. Tom't 7.30 THE ROYAL OPERA Ballet Dancers. Tomor 7.30 THE ROYAL BALLET (Gala Perf) Cinderella, Ballet casting info 01 240 9815.

SADLER'S WELLS 278 8916 First Call CC 24 hr 7 day 240 7200 From Wed 2 Jan. Eves 7.30 mm MICHAEL CLARK & COMPANY in Because We Must.

THEATRES

BEST PLAY
Standard Drama Awards 1987
A SMALL FAMILY BUSINESS
"ALAN AYCKBOURN's brilliant new play" *Financial Times*
Olivier: Tomorrow 7.15. Thu 2.00 & 7.15
NATIONAL THEATRE 01-928 2252

ADELPHI 836 7611 or 240 7913 /4 CC 741 9999/ 836 7358/ 379 4444 Grs Sales 930 6123 First Call 24hr cc 240 7200 (no bkg fee) NOW BOOKING TO APRIL 2
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THE LAMBETH WALK MUSICAL
Nightly at 7.30 Mats Wed at 2.30 & Sat 4.30 & 8.00
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NICHOLAS LYNDHURST
in Larry Shue's New Comedy
THE FOREIGNER
Eves 8 Mats Thurs & Sat 3
OPENS TONIGHT AT 7.00

ALDWYCH 01 836 6404/0641 cc 379 6233/741 9999 First call 240 7200 (bkg fee) Eves 7.30, Saturday 5 & 8.30
FOR A LIMITED SEASON ONLY
MICHAEL GAMBON
BEST ACTOR OF THE YEAR
Standard Drama Award
In National Theatre production of
A VIEW FROM THE BRIDGE
By Arthur Miller
Directed by Alan Ayckbourn

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Royal Shakespeare Company's
LES LIAISONS DANGEREUSES
Winner of 4 "BEST PLAY" awards. Some tickets avail Mats
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"NIGELY NERVE-RACKED EVENING" E.Shorter
DINSDALE LANDEN
CAROL DRINKWATER
and **JEREMY BULLOCH** in
DANGEROUS OBSESSION
Gripping new thriller by N J Crisp
"Powerfully applies the bricks of suspense" Times
"HOLDS YOUR NERVES AT SUNPOINT...TENSION JUNKIES WON'T BE DISAPPOINTED" D. Mail
Eves 8pm. Sat 6.30 & 8.30. Mats Thu 3.00pm
EXTRA PERF 24 DEC at 3.00

APOLLO VICTORIA 5S 828 8665 cc 630 6262 Party bkgs 828 6188 Open All Hours 379 4444 cc 1st Call 240 7200 K Prowse 741 9999 Grps 930 6123
Eves 7.45 Mats Tue & Sat 3 & "FRENCHMEN...YOU HAVE TO SEE IT" D.Tel
STARLIGHT EXPRESS
Music by ANDREW LLOYD WEBBER
Lyric by RICHARD STILGOE
Directed by TREVOR NUNN
SOME SEATS AVAIL THIS WEEK
OAP's £5 on Tues mats
NOW BOOKING TO SEPT '88

ARTS THEATRE Gt Newport St. WC2 836 2132 cc 741 9999/379 4444
GEORGE BERNARD SHAW'S
CANDIDA
"Comic through and through" Times. Previs Jan 6 Opens Jan 12

BARBICAN THEATRE 01 638 8891 cc (Mon-Sun 10am-8pm) **ROYAL SHAKESPEARE COMPANY**
Tom't. Fri 7.30. Tomor. Sat 2.0 & 7.30. Thurs 7.0.
THE WIZARD OF OZ
THIS CHRISTMAS THE RSC CROSS "OVER THE RAINBOW"
Perfs (Mon-Sat) until 9 Jan. then 19-23 Jan. 8-13, 22-27 Feb.
1Groups 930 6123)
THE PIT TON'T 7.0. Wed. Thurs 7.30. SPECULATORS by Tony Marchant. OLD YEAR'S EVE rois 18 Dec. DEATHWATCH/THE MAIDS rins 11 Jan.

CAMBRIDGE THEATRE Earlham St. WC2 Box Office & CC 01-379 6299 (NO BKG FEE), CC 1st Call 24hr/7 day 240 7200 (NO BKG FEE). CCTB 741 9999 (NO BKG FEE) & Open All Hrs 379 4444 (BKG FEE). Group Sales 930 6123
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"...DELIGHTFULLY ZESTFUL PRODUCTION OF THE BROAD-WAY MUSICAL" D. Ex.
PETER PAN
"...A HISSING SUCCESS" Sta.
"...ENTERTAINING TO ADULTS...AND A TREAT FOR ADULTS-TO-BE" D. Tel.
Eves 7.30, Wed & Sat mats 2.30

COMEDY 01-930 2578/8778 cc 839 1438 & 741 9999
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"A BLAZING BURST OF A PLAY. REEVES AND SECRET RAISE THE ROOF" Sun Times.
DAVID REEVES SASKIA SECRET RAISE
"A NEW ROMANCE, CAN HARDLY FAIL TO MOVE" City Limits
SEPARATION
by Tom Kempinski
directed by Michael Attenborough
"VERY FUNNY, KILL FOR A TICKET" Ms. London
Mon-Thu 8.0. Fri & Sat 6.0 & 8.45

COTTESLOE National Theatre 928 2252 Tomor 7.30 TING TANG MINE new play by Nick Darke.

CRITERION S 930 3216 CC 379 6565/ 379 4444/741 9999. Groups 836 3962. Eves 8. Thurs mat 2.30. Sat 5.30 & 8.30
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LIONEL JEFFRIES
RUN FOR YOUR WIFE!
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THE ULTIMATE EXPERIENCE
THE PORTRAYAL OF 'AKASH'
BY
LAURENCE OLIVIER
Mon-Fri 7.30 Sat 4 & 8.15
SPECIAL CONCESSIONS at £7 all perfs except Fri & Sat eves for OAP's, UB40's, students & under 16's avail (two 3pm Sat from 12 noon)
SEATS AVAIL FOR PERF TON'T
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Extra Xmas Matinee 22 Dec at 3

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DRURY LANE THEATRE ROYAL Box Office & CC 01-836 8108. 01-240 9066/7. First Call 24hr 7 day cc bkgs on 01 240 7200 (no bkg fee). Open All Hours 01 379 4444 (no bkg fee)
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42ND STREET
A SHOW BUSINESS FAMILY
Winner of all the best Musical Awards for 1984 voted
BEST MUSICAL
STANDARD DRAMA AWARDS award
BEST MUSICAL
LAURENCE OLIVIER AWARD voted
BEST MUSICAL
PLAYS & PLAYERS LONDON THEATRE CRITICS AWARD
Eves 8.0 Mats Wed 3.0. Sat 5.0 & 8.30. This Thurs at 7.30pm. Xmas Mat Dec 21 at 2pm in aid of Actors Benevolent Assoc. Special price mat Weds. Students and OAP's standby. Group Sales 930 6123
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AND THEN THERE WERE NONE
"QUITE IRRESISTIBLE" D Mir
"A STUNNINGLY ORIGINAL PLOT" D. Tel. "A STRIKE COMEDY THRILLER" LBC
Eves 8 Mats Thu 3 Sat 5
EXTRA PERF DEC 28 AT 5PM

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ROWENA ROBERTS IAN TALBOT
WHEN DID YOU LAST SEE YOUR...TROUSERS?
by Ray Galton & John Antrobus
Eves 8, Mats Tues 3, Sat 5
OVER 250 PERFS!!
THE NEW SET COMEDY.
NOW BOOKING TO MAY '88
XMAS EVE MAT 2 pm

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MAGGIE SMITH
Nominated best actress: Olivier Awards
MARGARET TYZACK
in
LETTICE AND LOVAGE
nominated best play: Olivier Awards
a new comedy by
PETER SHAFFER
with
RICHARD PEARSON
directed by
MICHAEL BLAKEMORE
Mon-Sat 7.45 sharp. Sat Mat 3.00

GREENWICH THEATRE 01 858 7755 cc 01 853 3500 (no bkg fee) Evenings at 7.45 Mat Sat 2.30 BELLS ARE RINGING The Comden & Green/Styne Musical
"A ... bundle...LESLEY ASKEW radiates pulse!...well performed by RAY LONNEN" Obs. "Most welcome" F.Times.

HAMPSTEAD 722 9301 **BETWEEN EAST AND WEST** by Richard Nelson. Previs Tom't 8 pm. Press Night Tomor 7 pm. Subs eves 8 pm, Sat 4.30 & 8pm.

HAYMARKET THEATRE ROYAL Box Office & cc 01-930 9832 Previews from Dec 15
OPENS DEC 18 at 7.0
MICHAEL HORDERN WORTH
and **MICHAEL DENISON**
in
YOU NEVER CAN TELL
by Bernard Shaw
Directed by TONY ROBERTSON
Eves 7.30 Mats Wed & Sats 3.00
No Perf Xmas Eve. First Call 24hr 7-day cc bkgs 01-240 7200 (bkg fee) Open All Hours 01-379 4444 (bkg fee) Group Sales 01-930 6123

HER MAJESTY'S (Haymarket 839 2244 CC 24hr (bkg fee) 379 4444/741 9999/240 7200
Group Sales 930 6123
**AND

TELEVISION AND RADIO

Compiled by Peter Dear and Peter Davalle

BBC1

6.00 Ceefax AM.
6.35 Lees Errol in He Forgot to *Remember (b/w).* **8.55 Weather.**
7.00 Breakfast Time with Frank Bough, Sally Magnusson and Jeremy *Paxman.* Includes national and international news at **7.00, 7.30, 8.00 and 8.30;** regional news and travel reports at **7.15, 7.45 and 8.15;** weather at **7.25, 7.55 and 8.25.**
8.40 Open Air. Eamonn Holmes receives viewers' comments on yesterday's television output **8.55** Regional news and weather.
9.00 News and weather followed by Neighbours (r). **9.20 Kilroy.** *Robert Kilroy-Silk chairs a* studio discussion on the role of modern mothers.
10.00 News and weather followed by Going for Gold (r). **10.25** Children's BBC. Andy Crane *with programme details and* birthday greetings followed by Play School, presented by Floella Benjamin with guest *Mike* Amatt (r), and Willo the Wisp (r).
10.55 Five to Eleven. A reading by Sir Michael Hordern. **11.00 News** and weather followed by Open Air, with Pattie Coldwell and Eamonn Holmes.
12.00 News and weather followed by Daytime Live. Magazine programme **12.25** Regional news and weather.
1.00 One O'Clock News with Michael Buerk. Weather **1.30** Neighbours. Mike discovers something about the nature of Cassie's work **1.50 Going for** Gold. European general knowledge quiz presented by Henry Kelly.
2.15 Knots Landing. Gary's ranch is used as a hideout by Chip; and *Lillimae returns home from the* sanatorium **3.00 Valerie.** American domestic comedy series starring Valerie Harper (r). **3.25 The Clothes Show.** Selina Scott and Jeff Banks visit Dallas and help celebrate the 80th anniversary of the city's *famous store, Neiman Marcus.*
3.50 Firemen Sam 4.00 Henry's Cat (r). **4.05 Pillowena.** Adventures of a kitten narrated by Johnny Ball (r). **4.15 Simon** and the Witch. Episode 10. **4.35 Record Breakers** includes *Rolf Harris painting the largest* greeting card and Paul Scott attempting to regain his fastest magician in the world title.
5.00 Newsround 5.10 Grange Hill. *Episode 23 (r). (Ceefax)*
5.35 Masterteam 87. Quiz game for teams presented by Angela Rippon.
6.00 Six O'Clock News with Sue Lawley and Nicholas Witchell. Weather **6.35 London Plus.**
7.00 Divided We Stand. The final programme of the domestic comedy series starring Anne Kesaveny and Shaun Curry as an unhappily married couple. (Ceefax)
7.30 EastEnders. Dot and Charlie go off to court; and the police, investigating a break-in, ask Barry some awkward questions. (Ceefax)
8.00 Some Mothers Do 'Ave 'Em. Frank finds himself in another pickle. Starring Michael Crawford and Michele Dotrice (r).
8.30 Into the Black and Blue Holes. *A documentary filmed in* underwater caverns in a remote part of the Bahamas.
9.00 Nine O'Clock News with Martyn Lewis and Debbie Thrower. Regional news and weather.
9.30 Film: Lords of Discipline (1982) *starring David Keith. Drama, set in* an American military academy steeped in traditions of harshness and humiliation, *about the* arrival in 1964 of the first black cadet and his 'minder's' problems of keeping him in the academy — and alive. Directed by *Franc Roddam. (Ceefax)*
11.10 Network. A major topical issue is examined. With Anna Ford, David Jessel and Craig Charles.
12.05 Weather.

BBC2

9.00 Ceefax 12.30 Open University: *Design and Innovation* **12.55** Communication and Education **1.20 Check-a-Block.** *For the very young (r).*
1.30 Pioneers of Photography. The portrait photographer Nadar (r).
2.00 News and weather followed by **Sign Extra.** Children's programmes adapted for the hearing impaired (r). **2.50 Holiday Outings.** Hunter Davies visits *the Lake District (r).*
3.00 News and weather followed by **Lost Kingdom of the Kalash.** A *The World About Us* programme about an area in the mountains of the Hindu Kush *in northern Pakistan.* **3.50 News,** regional news and weather.
4.00 It's My Pleasure. Les Dennis talks to Desmond Lynam about his favourite television memories **4.35 One in Four.** Magazine programme for the disabled and their families.
5.05 My Music. Frank *Muir* and John Amis challenge Denis Norden and Ian Wallace. The *question setter and master is* Steve Race (r). **5.30 Film 87** presented by Barry Norman (r).
6.00 No Limits. This week's edition of the rock music show features the 1987 Powerplay Awards.
7.00 Open to Question. Michael *Grade, the new head of Channel 4,* is questioned by a teenage studio audience.
7.30 Just Another Day. John Pitman spends a day in the Cotswold town of Fairford, site of a Nato base (r).
8.00 Food and Drink. This seasonal edition includes advice on the best way of carving a turkey.
8.30 Brass Tacks: The Wannabees. *A report on Britain's image-* conscious youngsters.
9.00 Entertainment USA. Jonathan *King is in Aspen, Colorado.*
9.30 Footsteps. David Drew follows in the footsteps of Richard Wetherill, an American rancher who discovered in 1888 the Indian cliff dwellings of the Mesa Verde. (Ceefax)
10.20 Sharansky. The second of five programmes on the life of the Russian dissident, Natan Sharansky.
10.50 Newsnight 11.35 Weather.
11.40 One in Four. For the disabled (r). Ends at **12.15.**

ITV/LONDON

6.00 TV-am. Cartoons and other family entertainment. Includes Good Morning Britain between 6.00 and 9.30.
9.25 Thames news headlines.
9.30 Runaway. Travel quiz presented by Chris Serle **10.00 Santa Barbara.** Joe and Dominic think that the answer to *Channing's murder is in the* dead man's diary **10.25 News** headlines with Sue Carpenter **10.30 The Time. . . The Place. . .** Mike Scott chairs a topical discussion.
11.10 Rainbow. Educational puppet series **11.25 Thames news** headlines **11.30 About Britain.** Nora Edwards recalls her pre-Second World War childhood in Ashurst on the fringe *of Hampshire's New Forest* **12.00 Jimmy's.** A visit to St James's University Hospital, Leeds.
12.30 News with Julia Somerville **12.50 Thames news.**
1.00 Quincy. The Medical Examiner is accused of fabricating a crime when a body goes missing. Starring Jack Klugman (r). **2.00 Cross Wits.** Word game presented by Tom O'Connor. With Paula Wilcox and Graeme Garden.
2.30 Jencis Robinson Meets: . . Australian painter Sir Sidney Nolan. **3.00** Farmhouse Kitchen. Grace Mulligan prepares a Christmas *dinner for two involving guinea* fowl. **3.25 Thames news** headlines **3.30 The Young** Doctors. Medical drama serial set in a large Australian city *hospital.*
4.00 Rainbow. A repeat of the programme shown at 11.10 **4.15 The Telebugs 4.25 Emu's Wide World:** With Rod Hull and guest Gareth Hunt.
5.15 Blockbusters. General knowledge game for teenagers, presented by Bob Holness.
5.45 News with Fiona Armstrong **6.00 Thames news.**
6.30 The Roxy. Pop music *programme presented by David* Jensen and Kevin Sharkey.
7.00 Emmerdale Farm. Jackie and Kathy find their dream cottage but have to face reality when it comes to buying it.
7.30 Reporting London presented by Michael Barratt.
8.00 The Mike Yarwood Show. Comedy impressions including a new-look TV-am. The guests are Kate Robbins and Adrienne Posta.
9.00 North and South, Book II. Drama serial set during the American Civil War. After the Battle of Gettysburg, Billy decides to go absent without leave to visit his wife in South Carolina; General Hazard is captured by *the Confederates; and General* Orry Main is wounded and tended in a Northern hospital. Starring James Read, Patrick Swayze and Lesley-Anne Down. (Oracle) (continues after the *news)*
10.00 News at Ten with Alastair Burnet and Sandy Gall. Weather followed by Thames news headlines.
10.30 North and South, Book II continued.
12.00 Seconds Out. Boxing from Wales.
1.00 Film: Cuba Crossing (1980) starring Stuart Whitman and Robert Vaughn. Thriller about a joint CIA/Mafia plot to assassinate Fidel Castro. Directed by Chuck Workman.
2.30 News headlines followed by **Three's Company.** Comedy series.
3.00 Film: The Secret War of Jackie's Girls (1980) starring Mariette Hartley. A made-for-television drama about a secret force of American women helicopter pilots based in England during the Second World War. Directed by Gordon Hessler.
5.00 ITN World News
5.30 CNN Headline News. Ends at **6.00.**

CHANNEL 4

12.00 Business Daily. Business and financial news service presented by Susannah Simons.
12.30 Just 4 Fun includes a *Dangermouse* cartoon and an animated version of Swift's *Gulliver's Travels.*
1.00 Sesame Street. Educational series for pre-school children.
2.00 Their Lordships' House (r).
2.15 Curtain Up! (1952, b/w) starring Margaret Rutherford and Robert Morley. Comedy about a repertory company putting on a new play under the feuding partnership of the stage director and the play's author. With Kay Kendall, Joan Rice and Michael Medwin. Directed by Ralph Smart.
3.45 Years Ahead. Magazine *programme for the older viewer,* presented by Robert Dougall. This week's edition includes news of how June, Marchioness of Aberdeen and Temair, established an arts centre for the north of Scotland at her castle, Haddow House.
4.30 Countdown: Today's challenger is fork-lift driver Tommy Sexton.
5.00 Bewitched. Vintage American comedy series.
5.30 Kids' Kafe (r).
6.00 Basketball: The Prudential Cup Final. Polycell Kingston play Portsmouth at the Royal Albert Hall. The commentators are *Simon Reed and Danny* Palmer.
7.00 Channel 4 News with Peter Sissons and Nicholas Owen.
7.50 Comment followed by **Weather.**
8.00 Brookside. Billy's luck seems to be changing for the better but *Growler's has taken a turn for* the worse. (Oracle)
8.30 Moneyspinner. This week's *edition of the personal financial* advice series includes Richard Briers talking about investment in *the theatre.*
9.00 Talking to the Enemy. (see Choice)
10.00 American Football. Action from America's National Football League.
11.15 Paul Hogan's England. The guests are Buck's Fizz and Dexy's Midnight Runners (r).
12.10 Their Lordships' House. Ends at **12.25.**

Across the deep divide

TELEVISION CHOICE

● The shooting war in the Israeli-Palestinian conflict extends even to the hospital maternity ward, as one scene in Talking to the Enemy (Channel 4, 9.00pm) vividly demonstrates. Rows of babies lie sleeping peacefully, Arab and Israeli side by side. But with twice as many Arab babies being born, the obsession is with demography and the question asked is: "Who is going to win the war of the womb?" Sub-titled *Voices of Sorrow and Rage,* the film by the award-winning British director Mira Hamermesh adopts a challenging approach to documentary film-making as it narrows the conflict down to two people — Chaim Shur, a middle-aged Israeli editor, and Muna Hamzeh, a Palestinian journalist, who have met in Washington, exchanged correspondence and meet on the Shur family kibbutz. Muna says she has never dreamt of "crossing to the other side" and expresses "the pain and the pleasure, the sorrow and the joy" of the encounter. Muna visits her old home and weeps: "That is a part of me – it cannot be any more". We are not shown her departure, just the younger girl and Shur's wife in close and tearful embrace. The older woman says, over and over: "I never had any hate". But the Israeli who poses as an Arab and tries to mingle with his fellow citizens discovers — and the camera records — the highly charged atmosphere that has every Arab in Palestine resembling a walking bomb that might explode at any minute. The film exposes other stereotypes: the Arabs as inferior, fit only for inferior tasks; the Israelis as settlers, military officers and prison guards. Powerful images here, and little room for optimism.

Ken Gosling



Chaim Shur and Muna Hamzeh test each other's attitudes in Talking to the Enemy, Channel 4, 9.00pm

Radio 1

MW (medium wave). Stereo on VHF (see below)
News on the half-hour from **6.30am** until **8.30pm,** then at **10.00** and **12.00** midnight
6.30am Adrian John **7.00** Mike Smith's Breakfast Show **9.30** *Simon Bates* **12.30pm** Newsbeat (Frank Partridge) **12.45** Gary Davies **3.00** Steve Wright **5.30** Newsbeat **5.45** Bruno Brookes **7.30** Janice Long **10.00-12.00** *John Peel.* **VHF** Stereo Radios 1 and 2:- **4.00am** As Radio 2 **10.00pm** As Radio 1 **12.00-4.00am** As Radio 2

Radio 2

MW (medium wave). Stereo on VHF (see Radio 1)
News on the hour. Sports Round-Up **8.50am**
4.00am Colin Berry **5.30** Ray Moore **7.30** Derek Jameson **9.30** Ken Bruce **11.00** Jimmy Young **1.05pm** David Jacobs **2.00** Gloria Hunniford **3.30** Adrian Love **5.05** John Dunn **7.00** Jazz Classics in Stereo (24) Wining Boy Blues: Jelly Roll Morton **7.30** The Radio Orchestra Show **10.00** Tunes the Backers Whistled (Dick Vosburgh) **10.30** The Name's The Game **11.00** Brian Matthew **1.00am** Patrick Lunt **3.00-4.00** A Little Night Music

WORLD SERVICE

All programme times given in GMT
6.00am Newsdesk 6.30 Londres Matin 7.00 News 7.09 Twenty-Four Hours 7.30 Turning Point 7.45 Network UK 8.00 News 8.09 Reflections 8.15 Tech Talk 8.30 From the Proms '87 9.00 News 9.09 Review of the British Press 9.15 World Today 9.30 Financial News followed by Sports Roundup 9.45 Mozart Miscellany 10.00 News 10.01 Discovery 10.30 Sports *International* 11.00 News 11.09 News About Britain 11.15 Waveguide 11.25 A *Letter from Scotland* 11.30 Londres Midi 12.00 Radio Newsreel 12.15 Multitrack 1 12.45 Sports Roundup 1.00 News 1.09 Twenty-Four Hours 1.30 Network UK 1.45 *Recording of the Week* 2.00 Outlook 2.45 Chronicle of Paris 3.00 Radio Newsreel 3.15 A Jolly Good Show 4.00 News 4.09 Commentary 4.15 Omnibus 4.45 World Today 5.00 News 5.09 *A Letter From* Scotland 5.15 English by Radio 5.45 *Londres Soir* 6.30 *Haute Alcuel* 8.00 News 8.09 Twenty Four Hours 8.30 Meridian 9.00 News 9.01 *Natural Selection* 9.10 Book Choice 9.15 Concert Hall 10.00 News 10.09 World Today 10.25 *Letter From* Scotland 10.30 Financial News 10.40 Reflections 10.45 Sports Roundup 11.00 News 11.09 Commentary 11.15 They Sold a Million 11.30 Robots on the March 12.00 News 12.09 News About Britain 12.15 Radio Newsreel 12.30 Omnibus 1.00 News 1.01 Outlook 1.30 Report on Religion 1.45 Country Style 2.00 News 2.09 Commentary 2.15 A-Z of Hollywood 2.30 Citizens 3.00 News 3.09 News About Britain 3.15 World Today 3.30 Discovery 4.00 Newsdesk 4.30 Six Four Eight 4.35 Financial News 4.45 Morgenmagazin 5.45 World Today.

Radio 3

6.25 Weather **7.00** News
7.05 Morning Concert: Suppé (Light Cavalry overture: Berlin PO under Herbert von Karajan), Handel (Organ *Concerto in F, Op 4 No 4:* Simon Preston and English Concert under Trevor Pinnock), Puccini (O mio babbino caro, Gianni Schicchi: Eva Marton, soprano, with Munich Radio *Orchestra under Giuseppe* Patanè), Mendelssohn (Italian Symphony: London Symphony Orchestra under Claudio Abbado)
8.00 *News bulletin*
8.05 Concert (continued): Copland (Fanfare for the Common Man: Detroit SO under Antal Dorati), *Bernstein (Three Dance* Episodes, On the Town: *Israel PO under Leonard* Bernstein), Shearing arrangement of Porter's I've got You under My Skin (Barry Tuckwell, horn, and Shearing, piano), Stravinsky (Ebony Concerto: Benny Goodman, clarinet and Columbia Jazz Combo under Igor Stravinsky), Schubert (Symphony No 3: Vienna PO under Carlos Kleiber)
9.00 World Service News
9.10 This Week's Composer: *Debussy. L'Enfant prodigue* (Jessye Norman, with José Carreras, Fischer-Dieskau, and Stuttgart Radio Chorus and Symphony Orchestra), *Prélude à l'après-midi d'un faune:* LPO under Sir Thomas Beecham)
10.00 Anthems by S.S.Wesley: BBC Northern Singers, with *Stephen Cleobury (organ).* Including O Lord, thou art my God; and Ascribe unto the Lord
11.00 Ysaye: Dong-Suk Kang *(piano) plays the Sonata No* 2
11.15 Midday Concert: BBC Scottish SO under George Hurst. Brahms (Variations *on the St Anthony Chorale),* Hindemith (Symphonic Metamorphosis of themes by Carl Maria von Weber), Beethoven (Symphony No 5). *Interval reading at* **12.05**
1.00 News bulletin
1.05 Cardiff recital: Alexander Baillie (cello), with Kathryn Stott (piano). Dvorak (Polonaise in A; Silent Woods; Rondo in G minor), and Mendelssohn (Sonata No 2 in D, Op 58
2.00 Guitar Encores: Jukka Savijoki plays works by Brouwer (including Pieza sin *titulo No 1),* Carlos Chavez (Three Pieces), Lauro (El Negrito), Angel Maria Landaeta (Adios a Ocumare), and Cadevaro (Campo: Tamborites, Preludios Americanos)
2.30 Austrians and their Neighbours: today — Czechoslovakia. Suk (A *Fairy Tale suite:* Austrian Radio SO under Kosler), Novak (In the Tatra Mountains: Czech Philharmonic under Sejna), *Ostrcil (Ballad: The* Orphan's Tale. With Libuse Marova, mezzo), Janacek (The Ballad of Blanik: Brno State Philharmonic under *Jilek), Borkovec (Nonet:* Czech Nonet), Martinu (Symphony No 5: Austrian Radio SO under Kosler)
4.30 Debut: John Lenehan *(piano) plays Hummel's* Rondo Ongarese, Op 107 *No 6;* Wolfgang Rihm's Ländler, 1979; and Schumann's Abegg Variations
5.00 World Service News
5.10 Mainly for Pleasure: recorded music selection, presented by Richard Baker
6.55 News bulletin
7.00 The Devil is an Ass: Ben Jonson's play in the Peter Barnes adaptation. The cast is headed by Jonathan Tafler, Peter Bayliss, Anthony Jackson, Freddie Jones, Michael Maloney and Caroline Gruber. Musicby Stephen Boxer (see Choice)
9.30 East of Vienna: recital by Nash Ensemble, with Sarah Walker (mezzo). Includes Borodin songs (The Pretty Maid No Longer Loves Me; and the Sea Princess, etc), and works by Schumann (*Fairy Tales Op 132, for* clarinet, viola and piano), and Rachmaninov (Elegiac Piano Trio No 2 in D minor, Op 9)
11.00 *First Night: Opera North's* production of Carmen, at the Grand Theatre, Leeds, is assessed by Derek Watson
11.10 *Dietrich Buxtehude:* Graham Barber, at the organ of St Peter Mancroft, Norwich. Programme includes Toccata in D minor; *Wie schon leuchtet der* Morgenstern; and Nun *komm, der Heiden Heiland*
11.45 Debussy plays Debussy: piano roll of La Soirée dans Grenade. And La Plus que lente
11.57 *News* **12.00** *Closedown*
4.55 *am.* Test Match Special: First day of Third Test between Pakistan and England, in Karachi. Until **11.35am.** *On MW and* VHF, but on MW only from **6.55am**



Mike Yarwood turns himself into George Gale: ITV, 8pm

BBC1 WALES: 5.35-6.00pm Wales Today 6.35-7.00 Roll Harris Cartoon Time 9.30-10.00 Week in Week Out 10.00-11.35 Film: The Lords of Discipline 11.35-12.30am Network 12.30-12.35 News, weather, close. SCOTLAND: 10.00-11.00am Observer 6.35-7.00pm Tapping Scotland 8.00-8.30 As Time Goes By 10.35-11.00 Sing Hitler Live 11.05-11.10 Sounding Brass. NORTHERN IRELAND: 5.35-6.00pm Today's Sport 6.00-6.05 Inside Ulster 6.35-7.00 Masterteam 87 12.05-12.10am News, weather, close. ENGLAND: Regional news magazine.

BBC2 WALES: 5.35-6.05pm Masterteam 87 SCOTLAND: 6.00-6.35pm Priorities.

ANGLIA As London except: 12.00pm News 1.00-2.00 Little Gloria 6.15-6.45 Emmerdale Farm 8.00 About Anglia 8.35 Crossroads 7.00 Only When I Laugh 7.30-8.00 The Roxy 11.40am America's Top 10 1.30-2.30 When the Music's Over 5.00 Farming Diary 5.30 Survival 6.00 Closedown.

BORDER As London except: 12.00-12.30pm News 1.00-2.00 Love Boat 2.30-4.00 Sons and Daughters 6.00 Lookaround 6.35-7.00 Crossroads 7.30-8.00 The Roxy 12.00 Fight Night 12.45am Closedown.

CENTRAL As London except: 12.00pm News 1.00-2.00 Crazy Like a Fox 4.00-4.30 News 12.00 Fight Night 12.45am America's Top 10 1.15 Hunter 5.10 Crime Busters Mini Series 2.45 Contact 3.15 News, Jobfinder.

CHANNEL As London except: 12.00pm News 1.00 Heirloom 1.30 Country Practice 2.00 Stallions 2.30-3.30 Emerdale Farm 4.00 Sons and Daughters 6.00 Channel Report 6.30 Emmerdale Farm 7.00 Frocks on the Box 7.30-8.00 The Roxy 12.00 Moviemakers 12.30am Closedown.

GRAMPIAN As London except: 12.30pm News 1.00-2.00 Blackie's Magic 5.15-5.45 Emmerdale Farm 8.00 North Tonight 8.35 Crossroads 7.00 Take the High Road 7.30-8.00 The Roxy 12.00 Fight Night 12.45am News, Closedown.

GRANADA As London except: 12.00pm Granada Reports 1.00-2.00 Murder She Wrote 3.00-4.00 Sons and Daughters 5.25-6.00 This is Your Right 7.30-8.00 Corrections 12.00 Fight Night 12.45am Closedown.

HTV WEST As London except: 12.00pm News 1.00-2.00 Falcon Crest 6.00 News 6.35-7.00 Crossroads 7.30-8.00 The Roxy 1.00am Closedown.

HTV WALES As HTV West except: 6.00pm-6.35 Wales at Six.

SCOTTISH As London except: 12.00pm News 1.00-2.00 Love Boat 3.30-4.00 Sons and Daughters 5.10-5.45 Emmerdale Farm 6.00 Scotland Today 6.30 Crossroads 7.00 Take the High Road 7.30-8.00 The Roxy 12.00 Fight Night 12.45am Late Call, Closedown.

TSW As London except: 12.00pm News 1.00-2.00 Bogart 3.30-4.00 Sons and Daughters 5.15-5.45 Crossroads 6.00 Today 7.00 Coronation Street 7.30 The Roxy 7.30-8.00 *To Be Announced* 12.00 Postscript, Closedown.

TVS As London except: 12.00pm News 1.00 Heirloom 1.30 Country Practice 2.00 Stallions 2.30-3.30 Emergency Ward Ten 4.00 Ask No Questions 5.30-6.00 Sons and Daughters 6.00 Coast to Coast 6.30 Emmerdale Farm 7.00 Frocks on the Box 7.30-8.00 The Roxy 12.00 Starring the Actors 12.30am Company, Closedown.

TYNE TEES As London except: 12.00pm News 1.00-2.00 Tell, Tell Live 6.00-6.30 Northern Life 7.30-8.00 Easy Street 12.00 Fight Night 12.45am The Stage is Set 12.50am-1.00 Jobfinder.

ULSTER As London except: 12.00pm Newstime 1.00-2.00 Legend on Ice 3.30-4.00 Survival 6.00 Six Tonight 6.30 Preview 6.35-7.00 Crossroads 7.30-8.00 The Roxy 12.00 Fight Night 12.45am Closedown.

YORKSHIRE As London except: 12.00pm News 1.00-2.00 Randall and Hopkirk (Deceased) 2.30-4.00 Country Practice 5.00 Calendar 6.35-7.00 Crossroads 7.30-8.00 The Roxy 12.00 Fight Night 12.45am Jobfinder 1.45 Closedown.

S4C Starts: 8.45am Film: Don't Get Me Wrong 11.30 Just 4 Fun 12.00 *Business Daily* 12.30 Countdown 1.00 Sesame Street 2.00 Heritage 2.00 *Marco Polo* 4.00 Fistfelafant 4.15 Rebecca 4.30 Heloc 5.00 Bewitched 5.30 *Education Extra* 6.00 Brookside 6.30 Cosby Show 7.00 Newyddion Saith 7.30 Awyr Iach 8.00 Lou Grant 9.00 Dawn 9.55 Arwyddion Fyrdd 10.25 Basketball 11.25 The Amish — Not to be Modern 12.25am Closedown.

VARIATIONS

HTV WEST As London except: 12.00pm News 1.00-2.00 Falcon Crest 6.00 News 6.35-7.00 Crossroads 7.30-8.00 The Roxy 1.00am Closedown.

HTV WALES As HTV West except: 6.00pm-6.35 Wales at Six.

SCOTTISH As London except: 12.00pm News 1.00-2.00 Love Boat 3.30-4.00 Sons and Daughters 5.10-5.45 Emmerdale Farm 6.00 Scotland Today 6.30 Crossroads 7.00 Take the High Road 7.30-8.00 The Roxy 12.00 Fight Night 12.45am Late Call, Closedown.

TSW As London except: 12.00pm News 1.00-2.00 Bogart 3.30-4.00 Sons and Daughters 5.15-5.45 Crossroads 6.00 Today 7.00 Coronation Street 7.30 The Roxy 7.30-8.00 *To Be Announced* 12.00 Postscript, Closedown.

TVS As London except: 12.00pm News 1.00 Heirloom 1.30 Country Practice 2.00 Stallions 2.30-3.30 Emergency Ward Ten 4.00 Ask No Questions 5.30-6.00 Sons and Daughters 6.00 Coast to Coast 6.30 Emmerdale Farm 7.00 Frocks on the Box 7.30-8.00 The Roxy 12.00 Starring the Actors 12.30am Company, Closedown.

TYNE TEES As London except: 12.00pm News 1.00-2.00 Tell, Tell Live 6.00-6.30 Northern Life 7.30-8.00 Easy Street 12.00 Fight Night 12.45am The Stage is Set 12.50am-1.00 Jobfinder.

ULSTER As London except: 12.00pm Newstime 1.00-2.00 Legend on Ice 3.30-4.00 Survival 6.00 Six Tonight 6.30 Preview 6.35-7.00 Crossroads 7.30-8.00 The Roxy 12.00 Fight Night 12.45am Closedown.

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Radio 4

LW (long wave). (s) Stereo on VHF
5.55 Shipping Forecast **6.00** News Briefing; Weather **6.10** Farming Today **6.25** *Prayer (s)*
.30 Today, incl **6.30, 7.30, 8.30** News **6.45** Business News **6.55, 7.55** Weather **7.00, 8.00** News **7.20** Your Letters **7.25, 8.25** Sport **7.45** Thought for the Day **8.35** Yesterday in Parliament **8.57** Weather; Travel
9.00 News bulletin
9.05 Call Nick Ross: 01-580 4411
10.00 News; Medicine Now: Geoff Watts reports on the health of *medical cars*
10.30 Morning Story: The Front Pew, by Lucy Gannon. The reader is Gillian Goodman
10.45 Daily Service: New Every Morning, page 97 (s)
11.00 News; Travel; Citizens (first of this week's two episodes of The Launching of William)
11.25 From Our Own Correspondent. Reports by BBC reporters on the spot
11.50 Tales of the Loch: Bruce Sandison talks of fishing, wildlife and history with Christopher Lowell
12.00 News; You and Yours: presented by Trevor Banes
12.25 Round Britain Quiz: Irene Thomas and Eric Korn challenge Robert Kernoban and Richard de Marco. The question masters are Gordon Clough and Louis Allen. **12.55** Weather
1.00 The World at One
1.40 The Archers **1.55** Shipping Forecast
2.00 News; Woman's Hour: introduced by Jenni Murray: includes items on coping with Christmas by putting domestic chores on a management level; an updated version of the book File on the Czar, part-written by Tony Summers; what constitutes bad taste in the arts and entertainment; and the West End musical Blues in the Night at the Piccadilly
3.00 News; Play: Listen to My Voice: by John Harding. With Steve Hodson, June Barrie, and Susie Brann. The voice on an art gallery cassette is what keeps drawing a middle-aged woman back to the building. But is she imagining the flattering things she hears on the tape? (s)
3.52 Comparing Notes: Richard Baker talks to the brother and sister singing partnership, Ian and Jennifer Partridge
4.00 News bulletin
4.05 In Business. David Lomax investigates the problems of transforming laboratory ideas into profitable ideas for business.
4.30 Kaleidoscope: a second chance to hear last night's edition, which included items on the book A Various Art; Countrymania at the Lyttelton Theatre, in London; and Another *Country* — Outsider Art, at Stoke-on-Trent. Introduced by Paul Vaughan
5.00 PM. **5.50** Shipping. **5.55** Weather forecast.
6.00 News, incl Financial Report
6.30 Dial M for Pizza: Comedy sketch series with Robert Bathurst, Brenda Blethyn, Miles Grady and Jonathan Kydd (s)
7.00 News
7.05 The Archers
7.20 File on 4: with reporter David Levy
8.00 The Radio Programme: presented by Laurie Taylor. With Ray Snoddy of the Financial Times. Tonight: The Future of Radio (r)
8.30 Workforce: A quarterly report on the world of *employment, incl a special* report by Brian Redhead and Nicholas Jones about workers who move in search of a job
9.15 *In Touch: magazine for the* visually handicapped
9.45 Kaleidoscope: introduced by Natalie Wheen. Includes items on The Foreigner, at the Albery Theatre, London; and the book Of Mammas and Matzohs
10.15 *A Book at Bedtime:* Jackdaw Cake, by Norman Lewis (7). The reader is Ray Smith **10.29** Weather
10.30 The World Tonight: introduced by Alexander MacLeod
11.15 The Financial World Tonight
11.30 Today in Parliament
12.00 News; Weather **12.33** Shipping Forecast
VHF as above except: **11.00am-12.00** For Schools. Australia Project: **11.00** Life in the Past **11.20 Life Today 11.40** Books and Poetry **1.58-2.00pm** For Schools. **1.55** Listening Corner. English Resources (2) **2.05** People Speaking **2.48** Introducing...Green Days by the River **5.50-5.55 PM** (continued)

FREQUENCIES: Radio 1: 1053kHz/285m; 1089kHz/275m; Radio 2: 693kHz/433m; 909kHz/330m; Radio 3: 1215kHz/247m; VHF 90-92.5; Radio 4: 200kHz/1500m; VHF 92-95; LBC: 1152kHz/261m; VHF 97.3; Capital: 1548kHz/194m; VHF 95.8; BBC Radio London: 1458kHz/206m; VHF 94.9; World Service: MF 648kHz/463m.

RADIO CHOICE



Jonathan Tafler in a Ben Jonson play: R3, 7.00pm

● "Oh rare, rare, *very* rare!". Thus Pug, the apprentice devil, in Ben Jonson's The *Devil is an Ass* (Radio 3, 7.00pm). True, he happens to be enthusing about the rich selection of human vices from which to take his pick when pleading to be given a day's leave in London to further the cause of his satanic master. But he might just as aptly be referring to the rarity with which Jonson's excoriating satire is performed, or indeed to the juiciness of the red meat that so richly fills two and a half hours of Radio 3's schedule tonight. Jonson, adapted by Peter Barnes, is treating here of Hell on Earth, inveighing against the corruption practised by the ruling class of his day — an activity so widespread and so versatile that Pug (Jonathan Tafler in fine, eccentric, voice) soon has good cause to conclude that Hell is a mere grammar school compared to the university of *London high life.* Plot-wise exceptionally devious, *The Devil is an Ass* is sometimes hellishly difficult to keep up with, and you will have cause to be thankful for the assistance offered by the huge cast of well contrasted voices, and for director Ian Cotterell's atmospheric sign-posting.

Peter Davalle

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UK to quit atom project unless costs are halved

By Pearce Wright, Science Editor

Britain will withdraw from the European Laboratory for Particle Physics Research, Cern, unless its payment of £65 million a year is halved.

Continued membership will also be conditional on the centre cutting its workforce of 3,500 by about 600, and the introduction of more professional management of the budget of more than £300 million a year.

The other 13 member countries will be told the terms at the end of this week at the annual meeting of the organization's council.

The UK pays 17 per cent of Cern's budget. The British threat of withdrawal comes just 15 months before completion of the world's largest atom smasher, costing £150 million, which was started six years ago.

Half the cost is for excavating a 15-mile underground tunnel, straddling the Swiss-French border.

The other half is for a ring of huge and powerful electromagnets, designed to accelerate particles to near the speed of light.

The costs of these experiments, which attempt to imitate in miniature the conditions at the beginning of the universe, are vast.

Payments are made quarterly in Swiss francs. International currency fluctuations have added £25 million to Britain's annual bill in the past two years as the value of the pound declined.

The increase used most of the £20 million contingency payment from the Government for all basic sciences at the end of last year.

Payments to Cern account for a fifth of the government money allocated to the Science and Engineering Research Council for support of basic research by British universities and research institutes.

Consequently, hundreds of applications in biology, chemistry, physics and mathematics have been deferred. Yet those small science projects account for 95 per cent of academic work.

After pressure from senior researchers, the Royal Society, which is Britain's leading learned society for the sciences, has advised the Government that a smaller proportion of the research budget must be allocated to particle physics work at Cern.

Even if the total amount of Cern money was switched to other science, there would still be a shortfall.

The change would also take time. Under a membership treaty, the British Government has to give at least 12 months' notice of withdrawal.

Sir John Kendrew, the Cambridge Nobel prize-winning scientist, produced a report calling for greater efficiency within Cern and a cut in British payments to no more than £35 million a year.

As a result, a management review was started at Cern It acknowledges the scientific excellence of Cern, which has won several Nobel prizes, but criticizes the management of spending on research.

His report will be submitted to the Cern council meeting on Thursday and Friday. It is known to contain proposals for a leaner organization by cutting the permanent workforce of scientists, engineers, technicians and administrative staff by 15 per cent over the next three to four years.

However, the final decision on the cost-saving plan is set for a meeting in February. That takes Britain past the statutory deadline for giving notice.

Spectrum, page 12

Toll grows in Gaza civil unrest



Israeli soldiers dragging a Palestinian from his home in Khan Yunis during further unrest in the occupied Gaza Strip. This man was taken to an alley and beaten unconscious. Another Palestinian was shot dead. "Iron fist" tactics, page 7

Tory rebels hopeful of victory

Continued from page 1

stepped up after the publication of a Gallup poll showing nearly nine out of 10 people wanted free health checks to stay.

Dame Jill Knight, chairman of the Tory backbench health committee, said she was not surprised by the findings. They were ample demonstration that people were highly anxious about the destruction of the principle that the examination was free, she said.

Conservative whips are working furiously to keep the revolt on the community charge, the centrepiece of the legislative programme, under control. They are arranging for MPs with misgivings to be given special meetings with the environment ministers, Mr Nicholas Ridley and Mr Michael Howard.

Mr Michael Heseltine, the former Cabinet minister, is hoping to speak in the two-day debate to voice his opposition to the plans. His opponents will point out that he supported the poll tax Bill in Scotland. Mr Heseltine's retort will be that the poll tax did little to help the Conservatives in Scotland at the election.

There is growing confidence among the whips that the instruction tabled by Sir George Young suggesting that the community charge should be based on ability to pay, which 25 Tories have signed and more are ready to back, will not be chosen for a vote by the Speaker.

If that is the case some Conservatives who are disinclined to withdraw support from the Bill will now do so.

If a revolt of the size predicted by Sir Philip occurred it would be a substantial setback for the Government

The community charge came under further attack yesterday when three of Scotland's leading churchmen said in a joint statement that the introduction of the community charge could damage family life and was basically undemocratic.

The Most Rev Thomas Winning, Roman Catholic Archbishop of Glasgow, the Rev Maxwell Craig, of the Church of Scotland's church and nation committee, and the Right Rev Derek Rawcliffe, Bishop of Glasgow and Galloway, said they were concerned that the change to the poll tax was being made despite the wishes of the majority of the population.

Commons sketch

MPs audition for Carry On Boring

Some days are awfully dull. Only a smattering of members bother to turn up, and, of these, only one or two are recognisable. Observers look around for seasoned political experts to help them with the names of the others, only to find that they have stealthily slipped away: why else become a seasoned political expert, if not to possess the knowledge to vanish when boredom beckons?

These are the days when the all-seasons comedy turns — Skinner, Banks, Soames — decide that they are destined not for a cameo in a Carry On, but for a major Shakespearean role. Their questions substitute stodge for zip, the earnest for the jocular. They end up as Shakespearean as Barbara Windsor quoting Hamlet.

Elsewhere, quite sensible questions give rise to quite sensible answers, both questions and answers full to the brim with accurate percentage rises, statistical predictions and interim reports.

It was one of those days. Mr Eric Heffer lumbered to his feet with a complaint. "It's about time . . ." he began. This is the way he always begins. "It's about time the people of this country realized . . ." he continued. This is the way he always continues. "It's about time the people of this country realized that this Government is only interested in profit", he ended. This is the way he always ends.

Mr Max Madden, whose merry combination of names tends to promise rather more fun than it delivers, asked why the old and the cold were being asked to pay more simply to give city slickers a bigger profit. The minister chose not to tell him. Mr Phillip Oppenheim (Conservative, Amber Valley) asked how much more electricity prices would be if the Government had given in to Mr Scargill in 1985.

The minister — not one of those whose name leaps immediately to mind — said that it was a very good question but that he didn't have the figures. Undoubtedly much higher, though. Undoubtedly.

Mr Richard Holt (Cons, Langbaurgh) asked "What is the Government's thinking in connection with windows?" Perhaps it was misheard. One can see that widows might come into the Government's thoughts, and even winos could be worth a bit of legislation, but it was hard to see how windows could be either a good thing or a bad thing.

Was this a planted question, designed to smooth the path for a ministerial announcement on the abolition of windows, thus giving a much-needed boost to the wall-paint industry? No — it emerged that Mr Holt was worried about heat loss. Not terribly worried. Just a bit.

Even though they last only ten minutes, Questions to the Minister of Arts usually provide drama, light entertainment, laughter, tears and time for a couple of quick choruses: but not today. Mrs Ewing (Scot Nat, Moray) asked him not to overlook the minority cultures "such as Gallic". Again, Gillick or even garlic might have afforded some controversy, but never Gallic. The minister smiled genially. He wouldn't.

Mr Tony Banks, usually a good joker, uplifted his bonnet to let a tired old bee bumble its way to the floor. The Parthenon Marbles, as he calls them, should be returned "to eliminate a legacy of bitterness". Not many jokes there, you will agree. "If you start down that road, the question is — where do you end?" said the minister.

Mr Norman Fowler rose to answer Mr Michael Meacher's questions about a miscalculation of one tenth of one per cent in the monthly Retail Price Index. It began to look like the winning entry for a *Spectator* Weekend Competition for the most boring exchange in parliamentary history. This was followed by nearly an hour of Mr Bob Clay (Lab, Sunderland N) calling attention to unemployment.

Outside the Chamber, a Labour Party Press Release announced that a Mr David Clarke MP would be speaking at the launch of The Ramblers Association leaflet, *Hedgerows - Lifelines of Our Countryside*. At last, a ray of sunshine.

Craig Brown

Romanians face more food and energy cuts

Bucharest (AP) — President Ceausescu of Romania yesterday signalled further belt-tightening in spite of unprecedented public protests in the face of severe food and energy shortages.

Opening a crucial Communist Party conference here, he rejected economic reforms and said workers must raise productivity.

In a four-hour speech to 5,000 delegates, Mr Ceausescu said that Romania had failed to reach some of its economic targets. He pledged some pay increases and said 1988 would be a decisive year for the country.

But he directly ruled out economic reform and strongly defended central planning instead. Market forces have little role to play in a communist society, Mr Ceausescu said.

"It is hard to understand how solving the problems of economic development can be left to the vagaries of supply and demand", he said.

Romanians are entering their fourth successive winter of harsh energy-saving decrees. Electricity and gas are being rationed even more than last year. Food has been rationed since the early 1980s. But Mr Ceausescu said Romanians were still failing to reduce consumption enough.

There was no hint at the conference proceedings open to foreign correspondents of any party disagreement with the tough policies of Mr Ceausescu, who has held power for 22 years.

Labour changes its stance on Trident

Continued from page 1

rule out the use of Trident as a "negotiating chip". Last month Mr Gerald Kaufman, shadow Foreign Secretary and co-chairman of Labour's internal group reviewing defence policy, said that unilateralism was no longer necessary now that the superpowers had embraced nuclear disarmament.

Mr O'Neill's statement coincided yesterday with a warning from one of the party's biggest paymasters, the Amalgamated Engineering Union, that it would fund its own campaign to reverse Labour's unilateralist policy.

Mr Gavin Laird, general secretary of the AEU, said: "Our union wants to influence the Labour Party to ensure that the policies they adopt are acceptable to the electorate.

"Some of the policies of the movement will not achieve that. Unilateralism is one of them."

Before the last general election, Mr Eric Hammond, general secretary of the electricians' union, and senior officials of the AEU met Mr Kinnock privately and told him his chances of becoming Prime Minister were nil unless he agreed to promise a referendum on unilateralism.

Mr Laird's comments came after the disclosure that his 800,000-streng union had left the Trade Unions for Labour organization because it had "singularly failed" in its objective of returning a Labour government to power.

Because of that decision, the Labour Party, already financially embarrassed, could lose more than £200,000 in affiliation fees from the AEU alone.

The executive of the AEU is understood to have taken its decision after losing patience with the party's inability to curb the so-called "loony left" — a vote-losing block described by Mr Kinnock's press officer as "the London Factor".

Their apparent obsession with minority issues, including homosexual and lesbian rights, is perceived by moderates within the movement to be frightening away traditional supporters.

Mr Bill Jordan, president of the AEU, considers Mr Ken Livingstone, MP, as the architect of some of the "crazier" policies currently being considered by the party.

NZ fury over French move of 'sick' agent

Continued from page 1

Mafart in Paris, where he had been admitted to a military hospital, and was to report to the New Zealand Government.

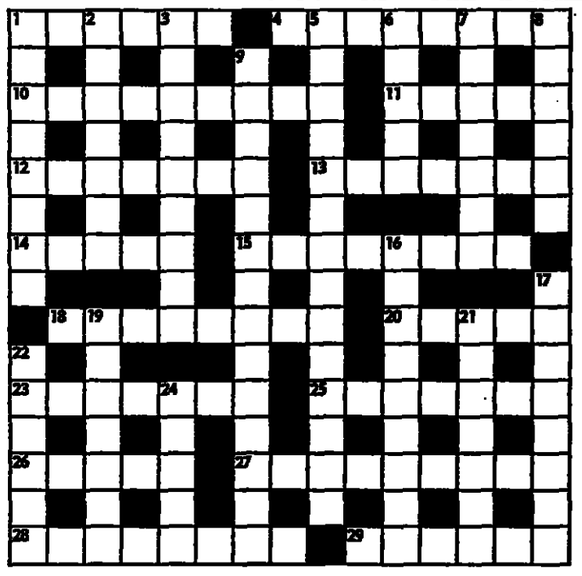
"When their doctor appreciates the reality of this case, it will be seen that France has not broken her word," M Chirac said.

Mr Lange said he had complained to Señor Pérez de Cuéllar, and had written to M Chirac.

A Greenpeace official, Ms Jacquie Barrington, said the French agents had been living a Club Méd lifestyle in Hoa. The latest move was another example of the French Government thumbing its nose at New Zealand, she said.

One crew member died when the agents sabotaged the Greenpeace ship in Auckland harbour on July 10 1985. The Rainbow Warrior was due to have led a protest flotilla to the French nuclear testing sight at Mururoa Atoll. A 10-year jail sentence was imposed on the agents after their capture and conviction.

THE TIMES CROSSWORD PUZZLE No 17,540



ACROSS

1 Example of native labour that's not so hot at first (6).
4 Lido fashion from Westminster district followed by many clubs perhaps? (4-4).
10 Italic cop suffers fracture of this bone (9).
11 Describing our system in two notes? Right (5).
12 Manxman for instance beheaded for calumny (7).
13 Farewell celebration — for an errant footballer? (4-3).
14 Forest endlessly burning (5).
15 Like the law, when the police appear finally (8).
18 Landlord's story about a riotous scene (8).
20 Such is the case of The Times leaders (5).
23 Barman's part set for revision (7).
25 Among nameless givers not seen in the open (7).
26 "Having pray'd together, we Will go with you _____" (Herrick) (5).
27 In passing, alter helm without time to go after record (9).
28 Work on subject of international agreements, say? (8).
29 Ill-feeling created if one has total rejection (6).

DOWN

1 Part of one's goal to do so, sailing from harbour? (8).
2 Murder scene as reported to Hamlet (7).
3 One politican, note, on the ball showing current resistance (9).
5 The victims of Joshua's long-winded attack (5,2,7).
6 Author on the square? (5).
7 Set free one soul in torment (7).
8 Frugality causes most of the dissension in the plant (6).
9 Requests for first courses' in discipline of course (8,6).
16 Goes about the island as one delivering the goods (9).
17 Struggles with Wales, using others to replace a loss (8).
19 A young devil learning to beg (7).
21 Seen in concert — tattered rag of software (7).
22 Far from broad sort of artist (6).
24 Tricky situation, this spot, having over-indulged (5).

Concise crossword, page 12

WORD-WATCHING

A daily safari through the language jungle. Which of the possible definitions is correct?

By Philip Howard

DIACOPE
a. An interpolation
b. An ecclesiastical vestment
c. A radio transistor

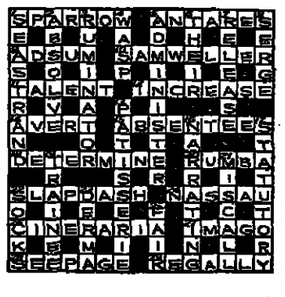
PAPAPHOBIA
a. The Oedipus Complex
b. A kind of orchid
c. Paisleyism

ENORMITY
a. An atrocity
b. Vastness
c. Enormous extent

NEBBISH
a. To rubbish
b. A Hungarian soup
c. A wimp

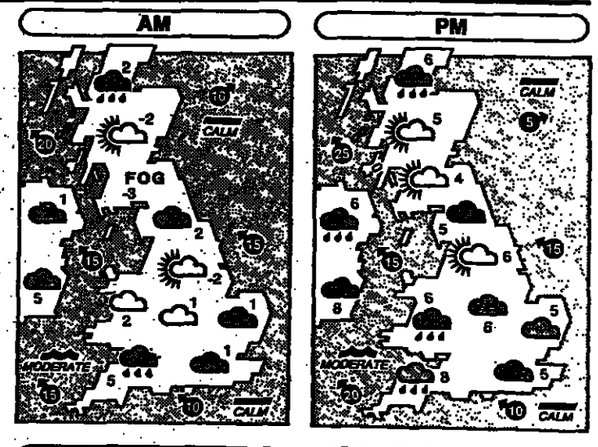
Solutions page 20, column 8

Solution to Puzzle No 17,539



WEATHER

Scotland will be dry and rather cloudy. Northern Ireland, south-west England and parts of South Wales will be cloudy with some light rain at times. The rest of England and Wales will be mostly dry but cloudy with some spots of rain. North Wales and north-west England will be a little brighter perhaps with some early afternoon sunshine. Outlook: Milder weather with rain will gradually spread across the country.



ABROAD

MIDDAY: c, cloud; d, drizzle; f, fair; fg, fog; r, rain; s, sun; sn, snow; t, thunder.

	C	F		C	F
Ajaccio	r	13	55	Majorca	f	17	63
Akrotiri	s	18	64	Malaga	f	17	63
Alex'dria	f	20	68	Malta	s	19	66
Algiers	f	18	64	Melb'rne	s	24	75
Amst'dam	c	-2	28	Miami*	s	25	77
Athens	c	13	55	Milan	f	5	41
Berlin	sn	-4	25	N Delhi	s	19	66
Bermuda*	s	21	70	N York*	f	8	46
Biarritz	r	11	52	Nice	r	9	48
Borde'x	f	14	57	Oslo	f	1	34
Budapest	f	-5	23	Paris	r	-1	30
B Aires*	s	28	82	Peking	s	7	45
Cairo	s	19	66	Perth	s	23	73
Cape Tn	s	28	79	Prague	c	-4	25
C'blanca	c	16	64	Reykjvik	c	5	41
Chicago*	c	2	36	Rhodes	s	17	63
Ch'church	c	21	70	Rio de J	c	23	73
Cologne	sn	-1	30	Riyadh	s	23	73
C'phagn	d	1	34	Rome	f	15	59
Corfu	f	17	63	Salzburg	s	0	32
Dublin	c	5	41	S F'disco*	s	9	48
Dubrovnik	c	11	52	Santiago*	s	29	79
Faro	c	17	63	S Paulo*	c	20	68
Florence	c	9	48	Seoul	c	4	39
Frankfurt	c	-2	28	Sing'por	f	29	84
Funchal	f	20	68	Stckholm	s	-1	30
Geneva	c	2	36	Strasb'rg	c	-2	28
Gibraltar	r	17	63	Sydney	s	23	73
Helsinki	s	-7	19	Tangier	c	21	70
Jeddah	s	29	84	Tunis	f	20	68
Jo'burg*	f	24	75	Valencia	s	18	64
L Palmas	s	22	72	Vanc'ver*	f	-1	30
Le Touquet	sn	0	32	Venice	r	5	41
Lisbon	f	16	61	Vienna	c	-2	27
Locarno	s	5	41	Warsaw	s	-4	25
L Angels*	s	11	52	Wash'ton*	s	9	48
Luxembg	c	-3	27	Wel'ton	f	17	63
Madrid	f	12	54	Zurich	c	-1	30

* denotes Sunday's figures are latest available

AROUND BRITAIN

	Sun hrs	Rain in	Max C	Max F	
Scarboro	-	-	6	43	dull
Bridlington	-	-	7	45	cloudy
Cromer	0.8	.01	8	46	bright
Lowestoft	-	.01	6	43	cloudy
Clacton	0.2	.01	6	43	cloudy
Margate	-	-	6	43	sunny
Folkestone	7.0	-	6	43	sunny
Hastings	6.6	-	6	43	sunny
Eastbourne	6.0	-	6	43	sunny
Brighton	6.6	-	5	41	sunny
Worthing	6.3	-	6	43	sunny
Littlehmptn	6.2	-	6	43	sunny
Bognor R	5.8	-	6	43	sunny
Southsea	4.9	-	6	43	sunny
Bournemth	4.1	-	6	43	bright
Exmouth	1.4	-	6	43	cloudy
Torquay	0.1	-	7	45	cloudy
Falmouth	0.4	.02	7	45	cloudy
Scilly Isles	1.2	-	8	46	pale
Guernsey	0.3	-	4	39	cloudy
Ilfracombe	-	-	6	43	sunny
Minehead	2.4	-	5	41	bright
Douglas	-	-	5	41	cloudy
Carlisle	-	-	3	37	cloudy
Nottingham	0.1	-	4	39	cloudy
Anglesey	4.7	-	6	43	sunny
Tenby	2.4	-	5	41	sunny
Aviemore	3.9	-	3	37	sunny
Eskdalemuir	0.2	-	0	32	cloudy
Glasgow	3.1	-	-1	30	fog
Lerwick	0.4	.02	7	45	rain
Prestwick	3.7	-	3	37	sunny
Tiree	-	-	7	45	cloudy
Wick	0.9	-	3	37	cloudy

* Denotes figures not available
These are Sunday's figures

HIGH TIDES

TODAY	AM	HT	PM	HT
London Bridge	6.12	5.5	9.05	5.7
Aberdeen	8.46	3.4	8.46	3.5
Avonmouth	1.20	9.6	1.54	10.0
Belfast	8.14	2.7	6.29	3.1
Cardiff	1.05	9.0	1.39	9.4
Devonport	—	—	12.12	4.5
Dover	5.50	5.5	6.29	5.2
Falmouth	11.42	4.3	—	—
Glasgow	7.42	4.0	7.32	4.3
Harwich	6.03	8.3	6.56	3.3
Holyhead	5.32	4.3	5.47	4.6
Hull	12.38	6.6	1.26	6.7
Ilfracombe	12.31	6.7	12.58	7.0
Leith	9.40	4.5	9.57	4.6
Liverpool	6.04	7.2	6.25	7.5
Lowestoft	3.48	2.2	5.20	2.1
Margate	6.35	3.9	7.23	4.0
Milford Haven	12.52	5.1	1.17	5.4
Newquay	—	—	12.17	5.6
Oban	1.07	3.0	1.17	3.3
Penzance	11.31	4.5	—	—
Portland	1.10	1.5	1.10	1.8
Portsmouth	6.16	3.5	6.40	3.7
Shoreham	5.53	5.0	6.24	4.7
Southampton	6.03	3.7	6.22	3.8
Swansea	12.49	7.1	1.17	7.4
Tees	11.09	4.2	11.09	4.4
W'ton-on-Nze	6.07	3.5	6.59	3.5

Tide measured in metres: 1m=3.280ft.
Times are GMT.

THE POUND

	Bank Buys	Bank Sells
Australia $	2.655	2.515
Austria Sch	21.85	20.75
Belgium Fr	66.20	62.00
Canada $	2.49	2.37
Denmark Kr	11.98	11.38
Finland Mrk	7.70	7.30
France Fr	10.50	10.00
Germany Dm	3.11	2.95
Greece Dr	268	248
Hong Kong $	14.70	14.00
Ireland Pt	1.172	1.112
Italy Lira	2285	2175
Japan Yen	245.50	233.50
Netherlands Gld	3.50	3.33
Norway Kr	12.18	11.63
Portugal Esc	252.50	238.50
South Africa Rd	4.88	3.90
Spain Pta	210	199
Sweden Kr	11.31	10.76
Switzerland Fr	2.525	2.405
USA $	1.52	1.53
Yugoslavia Dnr	3186	2400

Rates for small denomination bank notes only as supplied by Barclays Bank PLC. Different rates apply to travellers' cheques.

Retail Price Index: 103.4 (November)

London: The *FT* Index closed up 1.7 at 1312.4.

LONDON

Yesterday: Temp: max 6 am to 6 pm, 3C (37F); min 6 pm to 6 am, 2C (36F). Humidity: 6 pm, 76 per cent. Rain: 24hr to 6 pm; nil Sun: 24 hr to 6 pm; nil Bar. mean sea level, 6 pm, 1008 millibars; rising.
1,000 millibars=29.53in.

HIGHEST & LOWEST

Yesterday: Highest day temp: Isles of Scilly, 9C (48F); lowest day max: Aviemore, Highlands, -4C (25F); highest rainfall: Culdrose, Cornwall, 0.12in; highest sunshine: Carlisle, Cumbria, 5.8hr.

Sun rises: 7.59 am
Sun sets: 3.52 pm
Moon rises 1.30 pm
Moon sets 12.43 pm
New Moon December 20

LIGHTING-UP TIME

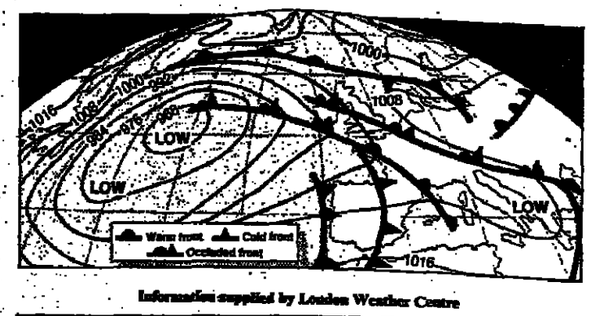
London 4.22 pm to 7.30 am
Bristol 4.32 pm to 7.40 am
Edinburgh 4.06 pm to 8.06 am
Manchester 4.19 pm to 7.49 am
Penzance 4.50 pm to 7.45 am

YESTERDAY

Temperatures at midday yesterday: c, cloud; f, fair; r, rain; s, sun.

	C	F		C	F
Belfast	c	5	41	Guernsey	c	4	39
B'ringham	c	1	34	Inverness	s	-2	28
Blackpool	s	3	37	Jersey	c	3	37
Bristol	c	2	36	London	c	3	37
Cardiff	c	2	36	M'chester	s	2	36
Edinburgh	fg	0	32	Newcastle	r	5	41
Glasgow	c	-1	30	N'ireland	c	5	41

NOON TODAY



Information supplied by London Weather Centre

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هكذا من الأصل

Executive Editor
Kenneth Fleet

STOCK MARKET

FT 30 Share
1312.4 (+1.7)

FT-SE 100
1852.6 (+1.0)

Bargains
21883 (23258)

USM (Datastream)
129.2 (+0.51)

THE POUND

US dollar
1.8370 (–0.0015)

W German mark
2.9934 (–0.0052)

Trade-weighted
76.1 (same)

Rapid rise in retail sales

High street spending soars to £8.9 billion

By Rodney Lord, Economics Editor

Optimism among Britain's manufacturers was supported yesterday by the latest figures for retail sales. One of the first indicators of economic activity since the stock market crash, the figures for November showed a continuing rapid rise in high street spending. Also, producer prices gave no indication of a resurgence of inflation.

The volume of retail sales rose by a provisional 1.05 per cent last month, seasonally adjusted, compared with 0.9 per cent the previous month. The index was 134.4 (1980=100), compared with 133.

Looked at over a longer time scale, the trend continues buoyant. In the latest three months, sales were 1.5 per cent above the previous 3 months and 6 per cent higher than the same period last year.

All types of retailer are thought to have achieved sales at or near their peak level with mixed retailers such as department stores doing particularly well after allowing for seasonal adjustment. The total value of sales in November was estimated at £8,910 million.

Market expectations were for slower growth. The figures were, seen by traders as an encouraging indication that if the fall in stock market prices had made people feel poorer, it was not going to affect spending for some time.

Mr Keith Skeoch of James Capel, the broker, said: "The figures suggest rising real incomes have been more important than the impact of lower share prices on wealth. It looks as though retailers should have an okay Christmas."

The year-on-year rate of inflation in prices of manufactured goods leaving factories last month was unchanged at 3.9 per cent. The index rose 0.3 per cent to 153.2 (1980=100). Inflation in manufacturers' output prices has been remarkably stable for most of the year and the latest figures pose no threat to the Treasury's forecast for retail prices.

The year-on-year rate of inflation in input prices continued to fall following the temporary rise during the summer. Last month, it was 3.2 per cent compared with 5.4 per cent the previous month.

The index for materials and fuel purchased by manufacturing industry rose 0.5 per cent last month to 131.6. On a seasonally adjusted basis, taking into account the seasonal rise in electricity prices, the index fell by 1.5 per cent.

Mr Skeoch said: "The input and output price figures together tell us there is no inflationary pressure in the system and that inflation is likely to fall in the next five to six months."

● In West Germany, wholesale price inflation continued negative. The Federal Statistics Office announced yesterday that prices fell 0.2 per cent in November and were 0.9 per cent below the level of a year earlier. This was a slightly smaller fall than the previous month when prices were 1.2 per cent lower than a year earlier.

The Kiel economic research institute yesterday forecast that the West German economy would continue to grow only slowly next year, at 1.5 per cent, the same rate as this year. This is more pessimistic than last month's forecast of 2 per cent growth next year



'Long-term Europeanization': Takashi Ishihara, Nissan chairman, yesterday (Photograph by John Manning)

Nissan moves into the fast lane with UK production of Micra

By Daniel Ward, Motor Industry Correspondent

Nissan's decision to build a second car in Britain will enable it to become one of the leading car makers in Britain, as well as doubling its European sales, which topped 300,000 cars in 1986. Its plant near Sunderland, Tyne & Wear, will become the third-biggest in Britain.

The new car to go into production at Sunderland in 1992 will be the Nissan Micra, a rival to the Austin Metro, Ford Fiesta and Vauxhall Nova. The Micra was chosen over the Escort-class Sunny because the small car class in Europe now accounts for more than 30 per cent of the 11 million new car sales. Demand has risen by 60 per cent in the past five years and this year Nissan will sell 42,000 Micras in Britain and 70,000 on the Continent.

Mr Takashi Ishihara, the chairman of Nissan, said: "This decision represents a further commitment on Nissan's part to the UK. We intend to use the success of this project as a lever for pushing ahead with a long-term Europeanization programme."

An increase in research and development in Europe will answer criticism that the Japanese are only assembling cars in Europe rather than becoming integrated local producers.

"It is probably good news for the British buying public," commented Mr Dan Jones, the head of the science policy review unit at Sussex University. He said the high efficiency achieved at Sunderland would force a change for the better in the British car industry.

Nissan executives denied that the effects of the stronger yen on traditionally narrow profit margins for small cars had forced them to build the Micra in Europe. Adding a second model would give Sunderland greater security in a fluctuating market and greatly improve the viability of the plant.

Both Austin Rover and Ford will have launched new

Comment.....25

small car models by the time the British-built Micra appears but low production costs will allow Nissan to be highly competitive. Productivity at Sunderland is more than double that of rival British plants.

Sunderland will build 50,000 Bluebirds next year, rising to 100,000 by 1991 and 200,000 by 1993 when the Micra is in production. An increase in Nissan's output will give Britain's component suppliers big new orders in the early 1990s but their traditional customers will suffer as they bear the brunt of the Japanese competition.

The plan agreed with the British Government is for the existing Bluebird model and the small class Micra to reach 80 per cent EEC content. At least four-fifths of the components are being bought in Britain, and by 1991 the Bluebird will have a higher British content than rival British-built Peugeot and Vauxhall models. Micra production will mean a further £100 million worth of component contracts for Britain.

Brewery rises to £5.9m

A poor summer and a further decline in ale sales led to marginally lower beer volumes at Greene, King & Sons, the East Anglian brewer of Abbot Ale and IPA Bitter.

Half-year results, however, beat market expectations, with pretax profits rising from £5 million to £5.9 million in the six months to the beginning of November. The shares gained 4p to 448p.

Demand for lager is growing, particularly in higher strength products, and now accounts for 30 per cent of beer sales. Greene, King has a 25 per cent shareholding in The Harp Lager Company and has exercised an option to brew Harp from October 1989.

The interim dividend rises by 15 per cent to 2.25p.

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Lee soars 25%

Arthur Lee, the steel and plastics processor and stockist, reported pretax profits up 25 per cent to £4.1 million last year, on sales 12 per cent higher at £82.5 million.

Making a mint

The Royal Mint announced yesterday that worldwide sales of the Britannia gold coin, launched on October 13, had exceeded 150,000 ounces.

£10m order

Negretti Aviation, part of Meggitt Holdings, has won a £10 million order to supply high technology masks for protecting US Marine Corps aircrew from nuclear fall-out and chemical agents.

SUMMARY

STOCK MARKETS

New York	
Dow Jones	1900.03 (+32.99)*
Tokyo	
Nikkei Average	22926.28 (–109.53)
Hong Kong:	
Hang Seng	2040.62 (+51.04)
Amsterdam: Gen	203.4 (+3.8)
Sydney: AO	1221.6 (+2.4)
Frankfurt:	
Commerzbank	1308.0 (+4.0)
Brussels:	
General	3511.2 (–43.1)
Paris: CAC	277.3 (+7.0)
Zurich: SKA Gen	n/a
London:	
FT.–A All-Share	832.18 (+1.1)
FT.–"500"	916.65 (–0.38)
FT. Gold Mines	338.0 (+8.7)
FT. Fixed interest	96.01 (–0.2)
FT. Govt Secs	87.94 (–0.43)
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MAIN PRICE CHANGES

RISES:	
Avon Rubber	592½p (+30p)
Taylor Woodrow	318½p (+19p)
LWT Holdings	710p (+47p)
TV-AM	237½p (+18p)
Christies Int.	337½p (+20p)
Unilever	470p (+10p)
Britoil	371p (+19p)
A Goldberg	152½p (+13p)
Anglia TV 'A'	290p (+21p)
G Wimpey	221½p (+17p)
Whitecroft	277p (+17p)
Pearson	640p (+10p)
JH Fenner	160p (+17p)
FALLS:	
J Jarvis	600p (–50p)
Lasmo	278½p (–16p)
A Cohen	450p (–25p)
Wellcome	359½p (–18p)
Closing prices	

INTEREST RATES

London: Bank Base: 8½%
3-month Interbank 8⅜-8½%
3-month eligible bills: 8 15/16-8 13/32%
buying rate
US: Prime Rate 8¾%
Federal Funds 6¾%*
3-month Treasury Bills 5.91-5.89%*
30-year bonds 94 16/32-94 21/32*

CURRENCIES

London:	New York:
£: $1.8370	£: $1.8370*
£: DM2.9934	$: DM1.6320*
£: SwFr2.4377	$: SwFr1.3282*
£: FFr10.1494	$: FFr5.5300*
£: Yen235.04	$: Yen128.05*
£: Index76.1	$: Index93.3
ECU £0.688826	SDR £0.753145

GOLD

London Fixing:
AM $502.75 pm-$499.75
close $499.25-499.75 (£271.00-271.50)
New York:
Comex $498.70-499.20*

NORTH SEA OIL

Brent (Jan.) pm $17.15bbl ($18.05)
* Denotes latest trading price

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Gulliver buys into Waverley

By Lawrence Lever

Mr James Gulliver, who last month announced his impending retirement as chairman of the Argyll Group, yesterday unveiled plans to build a Scottish consumer products and services group.

His launching pad is Waverley Cameron, the tiny quoted Scottish company which dates back to 1770, making the "Waverley" range of stationery and related products. With Noble Grossart, the Scottish merchant bank, Mr Gulliver has acquired a 12.99 per cent stake in the company at 270p per share.

Mr Gulliver and Noble Grossart also plan, with the blessing of the Waverley board, to inject £1.5 million into the company in return for new shares to bring their holding up to 64.27 per cent.

In stark contrast to the attitude of Distillers, which spurned Mr Gulliver's takeover, the board of Waverley has invited him to become the non-executive chairman.

The news sent Waverley's shares racing up 68p to 398p valuing the company at about £3.8 million. It made a loss of £72,000 for the half year

Yorkshire TV tunes in £13m

By Michael Tate

Boom conditions in television advertising helped Yorkshire Television Holdings, one of the big five network companies in independent television, to raise its pretax profits by more than half in the year to the end of September, from £8.93 million to £13.54 million.

Earnings per share have surged from 16.1p to 24.2p and shareholders collect a 5p final dividend, giving them 8p for the year, against the 6.25p that would have been paid last time according to the prospectus that brought the company to the stock market in August 1986.

Yorkshire Television's advertising income was up by 16.5 per cent, compared with the industry average of 13.5 per cent, and the company's share of network advertising revenue improved from 9.0 to 9.2 per cent.

This year the group is budgeting for 7.5 per cent increase in advertising income. It is pulling in new business via its late-night transmissions, now on three nights a week, but due to be extended to seven nights next year.

Sir Derek Palmar, the chairman, says overseas sales continued to make good progress, although the figures were hit by the weakening dollar and structural and exchange rate problems in the important Australian market.

At home, Yorkshire Television has become the largest supplier of programmes to Channel 4, even though it is the smallest of the five network companies. At the same time it has become one of the leading suppliers of programmes to the Open University.

Looking ahead, Yorkshire is far from dismayed by IBA rule changes that will give regional and independent contractors greater access to network schedules from next September, and by the expected restructuring of the industry promised by the Broadcasting Bill.

"We believe that good quality programmes will continue to be in growing demand," said Mr Paul Fox, the managing director, yesterday. "And we make good quality programmes."

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Norton Opax up to £25m

By Carol Ferguson

Norton Opax, the diversified printing group, reported pretax profits yesterday of £25 million for the 18 months to September 30. This was well above market forecasts, the highest of which was £23 million. The shares rose 10p to 115p.

Comparisons with the previous year, when Norton Opax made £5.2 million pretax, were distorted by the changed year-end and the inclusion for the first time of McCorquodale Group for 10 of the 18 months reported. However, the group said annualized earnings per share rose by 21 per cent to 12p.

The dividend for the 18-month period was 6p a share

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Oil price slide begins after Opec's fragile Vienna pact

By David Young, Energy Correspondent

Oil prices have begun their expected fall following the fragile accord reached in Vienna by the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries to leave oil prices and production quotas unchanged.

Iran's lack of enthusiasm for the agreement — its oil minister returned to Tehran before the end of the meeting to discuss the issue with his head of state — has led to traders labelling the accord "a makeshift compromise."

North Sea Brent prices, have dropped to $16.75 a barrel from Friday's close of $17.65, cutting into Government revenues and royalties.

In the United States the price of the key West Texas Intermediate crude has also started to drop below $18.

There is now considerable pressure on Opec to call an emergency meeting early in the new year and to come up with a completely new price and production structure.

The agreement reached in Vienna after six days — less

Britoil bid.....25

than two full days were spent in full ministerial sessions — will last for six months with Opec due to reconvene on June 9.

The accord leaves unchanged Opec's production quotas and the range of prices set for various grades of crude. But there is a widesspread feeling within the oil industry that those countries which have been over-producing will continue to do so and that discounting deals will continue to be offered.

The refusal of Iraq to accept a quota lower than Iran's — the last time it accepted a quota it was set at 1.6 million barrels a day compared with the 2.3 set for Iran — also means that it will continue to pump more oil to add to the world glut.

The Vienna meeting had highlighted the Arab Gulf states' insistence on keeping the marker price down at the $18-level, ignoring requests from the other countries, led by Iran, to set a higher price to

They argued that the current market conditions would not allow a price rise, but Iran argued that if Opec was united in setting a higher price and in sticking rigidly to its output quotas a higher price could be sustained.

Dollar slump puts a shine on precious metals

Gold price goes through $500

By Colin Campbell

The London gold price went above $500 an ounce for the first time in nearly five years. It reached $502.75 an ounce at the morning fix yesterday as fresh concern over the health of the dollar mounted in world financial markets and worldwide investors became dispirited with equity markets.

The surge past the psychologically significant $500 an ounce level — last seen on February 18, 1983, when gold traded at $503.50 an ounce — had been widely expected before Christmas, and the rising gold price lifted silver in its wake. Silver advanced by 6.5p to 381.25p an ounce.

Gold has been making a steady but slow climb from its depressed $287.25 an ounce level of March 1985, but in recent weeks economic fundamentals have fast deteriorated, and investment attention towards gold as a refuge increased. Investors have run out of patience waiting on measures to calm the turmoil in currency markets, while equity markets have continued in a tailspin.

With little evidence yet that the dollar's slide will be halted, and with expectations that the rate of inflation will rise, there is increasing confidence that the $530 and $560 an ounce levels for gold could be just around the corner.

As an alternative to uncertain stock markets and volatile currencies, gold and gold shares are winning new friends.

Mr Keith Smith, managing director of Mocatta & Goldsmid, the world's oldest bullion house, expects, now that the $500 an ounce level has been revisited, that the gold price will move up quickly.

Mr Julian Baring of James Capel, the stockbroker, predicts a gold price of $550 an ounce by the first quarter of next year, and believes that gold is still not expensive.

Turnover in the London bullion market yesterday was described as "good" with active two-way business.

Though gold first stepped over the $500 an ounce mark yesterday in the Indian subcontinent, it was London among the traditional markets where gold first reached $500 — though the price played ducks and drakes with the $500 level throughout the day's trading.

The metal opened in London at $499.75, moved to $502.75 at the 10.30 morning fix, and at 3 o'clock had slipped back to $499.50. By the afternoon fix, half an hour later, it had edged up to $499.75 but by 4 o'clock it was back at $500. It closed at $499.50 an ounce, for a $7.125 rise on pre-weekend levels.

● The dollar opened weaker and fell to new lows, but comments by a White House spokesman that the US was not seeking a lower exchange rate provoked a modest recovery. By the close the dollar was just 15 points below Friday's close at DM1.6295

Fed in crisis talks on dollar

From Bailey Morris, Washington

Officials of the Federal Reserve Board meet today to chart US monetary policy in an atmosphere of crisis caused by the plummeting dollar and signs that the US economy is slowing significantly after the stock market crash.

Economists said yesterday that the open market committee has very little room to manoeuvre given these twin problems and will most likely vote during the two-day meeting to leave current policies unchanged.

Meanwhile, pressure is growing on all fronts for the US to take some action to stem the dollar's fall as it continues to plunge to record lows against other leading currencies. Mr Paul Volcker, former chairman of the US central bank, joined European officials in giving a warning that the dollar had fallen too far and could re-ignite inflation.

The White House yesterday responded to the growing criticism by stating it had no desire to see the dollar fall further to improve the US trade deficit which rose to a record level of $17.6 billion in October.

Mr Martin Fitzwater, the White House spokesman, said: "As the president said, we are not seeking a decline in the dollar. We and our major allies are in the process of strengthening our policy in a co-ordinated fashion in order to provide a basis for stable exchange rates." Concern over the dollar increased as leading US business economists released a new forecast predicting sharply lower growth of 2 per cent or less between the fourth quarter of this year and the fourth quarter of 1988.

The National Association of Business Economists said it had lowered sharply its forecast from three months ago which predicted 2.7 per cent growth in response to the stock market crash and other factors. "The stock market crash and growing disillusionment about the effectiveness of US economic policies are the likely factors contributing to the more pessimistic attitude," it said.

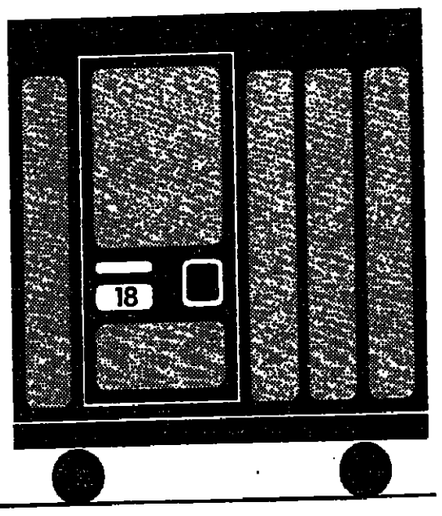
Mr James Baker, the Treasury Secretary, and Mr Alan Greenspan, the Fed chairman, have indicated they fear a recession more than the falling dollar as the US heads into an election year.

But economists said yesterday they doubted the central bank would vote immediately to ease monetary policy further solely on the basis of inconclusive studies which show that the economy is slowing. "I think the Fed will eventually ease, based on weakness in the domestic economy but concerns about the dollar may delay the move," said Mr Mickey Levy, chief economist of Fidelity Bank in Philadelphia.

This would go against the advice of US allies and international officials who fear the destabilizing effects of the wildly gyrating dollar threaten the world trading system.

At the same time, officials give warning that the US is fast losing the room to manoeuvre. At a meeting in Tokyo, Mr Richard Koo, an economist at the Nomura Research Institute, said: "In some sense, the US is running out of options. If the dollar plunges because of trade figures and interest rates go up, then stocks will go lower. But they cannot boost interest rates to defend the dollar because it will make the equities situation worse."

GMW
ARCHITECTS
ON THE MOVE



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BUSINESS SUMMARY

B&C seeks £100m to fund Abaco purchase

British & Commonwealth, the financial services group, is raising £100 million through the issue of unsecured loan stock maturing in the year 2012. The proceeds will be used to fund acquisitions, particularly the cash element of the offer for Abaco Investments, the financial services group, which last week recommended the offer from B&C.

Abaco yesterday said it had agreed to buy William Ehmslie and Son, the marine average adjusters and consultants, for £3.8 million cash. Ehmslie has three offices in North America, one in Greece and one in London and its operations extend worldwide. Ehmslie is expected to work closely with Teplis & Harding, Abaco's loss-adjusting and marine surveying subsidiary. In the year to end-April, Ehmslie made pretax profits of $499,000 on a turnover of £2.83 million. Net assets were £1.57 million.

Vinten profit rises 18%

Vinten, the aerial reconnaissance and equipment group, raised pretax profits by 18 per cent to £1.2 million during the first half of the year. Turnover was up 11 per cent at £14.2 million and the interim dividend increased by 19 per cent to 1.25p. The chairman, Mr Ron Marler, says he is confident about the future.

Warning on strong pound

Philip Harris (Holding), the Staffordshire educational and medical equipment supplier, warns that year-end margins will come under pressure because of sterling's strength. In the six months to September 30, pretax profits rose from £545,000 to £590,000. The interim dividend is raised from 1.875p to 2p.

Cash call at Citygrove

Citygrove, which specializes in developing out-of-town retail sites, is raising £8.2 million through an offer and placing to finance projects and as a stepping stone to a full Stock Exchange listing. Citygrove, which joined the Unlisted Securities Market in October last year, is predicting that in the second half of the year which ended on November 30, pretax profits will top the £751,000 reached at the half-way stage. The company has three projects totalling 504,000 sq ft under construction, with a further five due to start shortly.

The 8.16 million new preference shares will be offered to Citygrove shareholders on the basis of one new share for every ordinary share held. Mr David Woolf, the chairman, has a 41.7 per cent stake in the company but has undertaken not to apply for his entitlement under the offer.

Marina sale lifts results

A £309,000 profit on the sale of Upton Marina lifted pretax profits at Marina Development, the USM-quoted property to leisure group, from £102,000 to £516,000 in the six months to end-September. Earnings more than doubled from 2.34p to 5.10p a share. The board is reviewing property assets to establish development priorities.

Dawson buys US group

Dawson International, the Scottish textile company, is buying Cashmere Cashmere, a speciality retail operation with stores in New York and Chicago, for an undisclosed price. Cashmere Cashmere opened in New York in September last year and the 850 sq ft store had sales of $1.9 million (£1.03 million) in its first year. The second store opened this June.

Brown turnover leaps

Brown & Tawse Group, the distributor of steel and pipeline products, yesterday announced profits before tax of £3.5 million in the six months to September 30 1987 on a turnover of £68.2 million. This compares with profits of £2 million and a turnover of £51.7 million in the corresponding half last year. Growth in earnings per share was not quite so marked, although it still managed a 33 per cent increase from 6p to 8p. The company is lifting its interim dividend from 2.2p to 2.4p.

Mr Gilbert Black, who joined the board in August, is to take over in the new year as non-executive chairman. Mr Douglas Rae, the existing chairman, will continuean a non-executive director for a limited period. The company says that prospects for the full year are "regarded as favourable, subject to demand remaining firm in all markets."

£2m buy for Fitch Lovell

Fitch Lovell, the food manufacturer and distributor, has bought Freebooter Seafoods for £2.1 million, which could rise to a maximum £2.8 million depending on profits this year. Freebooter is a leading supplier to top multiple retailers and caterers. Its pretax profits in the year to the end of September were £443,000 on sales of £7 million.

Earnings up at Craton

Craton Lodge & Knight, the product development consultant quoted on the USM, lifted pretax profits in the year to end-September by 15 per cent to £695,000, on turnover 38 per cent higher at £4.7 million. Earnings per share rose 22 per cent to 7.8p and the final dividend is 2.5p. The group expects demand for its services to increase next year.

UNILEVER N.V.
ROTTERDAM

ORDINARY AND 4%, 6% AND 7% PREFERENCE SUB-SHARES OF FL.12

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that as at 4th January 1988 it is intended to withdraw the listing on The International Stock Exchange of the United Kingdom and the Republic of Ireland Ltd of the Ordinary and 4%, 6% and 7% Preference Sub-Shares of Fl.12 issued by Nederlandsch Administratie- en Trustkantoor ("Nedamtrust") in the name of Midland Bank Trust Company Limited (or in its former name of Midland Bank Executor and Trustee Company Limited) and to seek a listing for the certificates for Ordinary Shares of Fl.4 nominal issued by Nedamtrust ("Dutch Certificates"). This will have the effect of bringing the London listing into line with the listing of Unilever N.V.'s ("the Company") ordinary capital in Amsterdam and will reflect the form in which most dealings in the Company now take place. A listing is not being sought for the original bearer warrants for the 4% and 6% Preference capital and the Dutch Certificates for the 7% Preference capital due to the minimal number of Preference Sub-Shares in circulation.

Arrangements have been made to transfer the operation of The London Transfer Office from Unilever House, Blackfriars, London EC4P 4BQ to Midland Bank plc ("the Bank"), Stock Exchange Services Department, Mariner House, Pepys Street, London EC3N 4DA as from 22nd December, 1987. Holders of Ordinary and Preference Sub-Shares who wish to convert their holdings into Dutch Certificates (in the case of Ordinary and 7% Preference Sub-Shares) and original bearer warrants in the Company (in the case of 4% and 6% Preference Sub-Shares) should make application to the Bank at the above address on the application forms available for the purpose from the Bank. No fee will be charged for these conversions. Applicants must ensure that claims, on the appropriate form, are made or have already been made for dividends No. 1 (Ordinary), No. 75 (4% Preference), No. 85 (6% Preference) and No. 104 (7% Preference) and certificates marked accordingly, when such certificates are submitted to the Bank for conversion. Dutch Certificates and original bearer warrants, as applicable, will be available for collection from the Bank. As from 4th January 1988 new Sub-Shares will cease to be available for issue. However, the facility for exchanging Sub-Share certificates into certificates of different denominations will continue to be available until 4th January 1989. The fee for this facility will cease to apply forthwith.

As the Dutch Certificates for the 7% Preference capital and the original bearer warrants for the 4% and 6% Preference capital are only available in minimum denominations of Fl.100, the Company has made arrangements for the Bank to purchase on its behalf the balance of holdings which do not divide into multiples of Fl.100. The price at which the Company is prepared to purchase such shares is as follows:-

4% Preference Sub-Shares of Fl.12 £2.30
6% Preference Sub-Shares of Fl.12 £3.45
7% Preference Sub-Shares of Fl.12 £4.00

NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN that:-

1. as the low and still declining number of Preference Sub-Shares no longer justifies the cost of the administration involved, the arrangements governing such Sub-Shares will be terminated and dividends will cease to be payable thereon as from 4th January 1989. Consequently, as from that date, the underlying securities in the Company will be held available for holders of the Preference Sub-Shares still outstanding;
2. if the number of Ordinary Sub-Shares declines to the extent that, in the opinion of the Company, their maintenance would no longer be justified, the arrangements governing such Sub-Shares will be terminated either on 4th January 1989 or at such later date as may be decided and dividends will cease to be payable thereon from such date. In the case of the arrangements being terminated the underlying securities in the Company will be held available for holders of Ordinary Sub-Shares still outstanding.

UNILEVER N.V. — N.V. NEDERLANDSCH ADMINISTRATIE- EN TRUSTKANTOOR

Rotterdam/Amsterdam — 15th December 1987

STOCK MARKET

Prices recover early losses despite plight of dollar

By Michael Clark and Geoffrey Foster

All eyes were again on the sliding dollar yesterday as share prices made a cautious start to the second leg of the account.

But a firm opening on Wall Street – where the Dow Jones industrial average rose 32.66 to 1,900.03 during the first couple of hours – enabled prices to recover earlier falls and end slightly up on the day.

The FT-SE 100 index finished a net 1.0 up at 1,652.6, having been 8.8 lower at lower at 3.30pm. The narrower FT 30 share index also managed to recover a 7.0 deficit to close at its best level of the day 1.7 up at 1,312.4.

Dealers complained that the latest bout of weakness in the dollar had driven investors to the sidelines. Fund managers were unwilling to buy or sell stock at these levels, so turnover was reduced to a trickle. "We are being caught between two stools," moaned one leading broker.

The latest retail sales also failed to generate any interest.

Government securities finished the day with losses of more than £½ at the longer end despite whispers that another cut in bank base rates was planned for later in the week.

Gold shares moved up sharply as the London price broke through the $500-an-ounce level for the first time in nearly five years to reach $502.75 an ounce at one stage. It later closed a fraction below $500 an ounce at $499.75 an ounce.

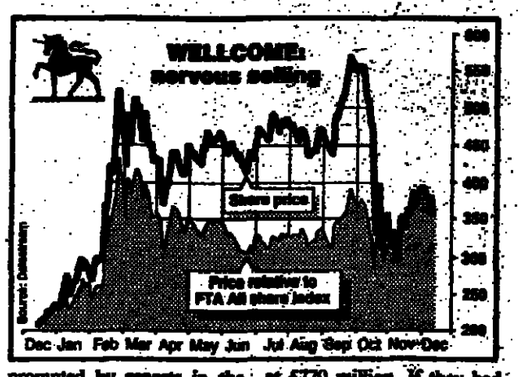
Among the heavyweights Vaal Reefs rose $1.25 to $121.25, after $122.50. Consolidated Goldfields, the mining finance house, added 34p to 963p and its rival, RTZ, jumped 23p to 348p, while Lonrho reflected its gold interests with a rise of 10p to 229p.

On the bid front, Britoil advanced 19p to 371p, after 378p. BP has confirmed that it intends to raise its tender offer to at least 350p a share. Last week Atlantic Richfield paid 350p a share for a 7.7 per cent stake and said it was interested in raising its holding to 49.9 per cent of Britoil.

Wellcome, the pharmaceutical group, was a flat spot, falling 20p to 358p as about six million shares changed hands. The group has decided to cut the cost of its anti-Aids drug, Retrovir, by 20 per cent in both Britain and the US.

The price of the drug in other EEC countries will be reduced to the same level as in Britain. Whispers that such a move was being considered by the group was mainly responsible for the markdown first thing.

Dealers reported that several large lines of stock were overhanging the market. The nervous selling was also prompted by reports in the American press over the weekend that highlighted the stranglehold the Aids virus was starting to have on various sections of industry and the growing mortality rate.



A recent health seminar in Washington was told that tests on a rival product to Retrovir looked promising. But many experts still regard Retrovir as the best hope in the battle against the deadly virus.

Meanwhile, Glaxo was also in the doldrums falling 41p to 979p on turnover of almost 4 million shares following cautious comments by Mr Paul Girolami, chairman, at the annual meeting.

He warned shareholders that the weakness of the dollar would take its toll of the group. "Looking at the first few months of this current financial year, exchange rates have affected results for the first five months to an even greater extent than in the past," he said.

Mr Girolami said that sales to the end of November stood at £770 million. If they had been measured using the exchange rate for the corresponding period, the figure would have been nearer £880 million.

He reassured shareholders that Glaxo had a number of exciting new drugs in the pipeline and still had plenty of capacity for expansion.

● ICI enjoyed some selective support yesterday with a rise of 15p to £10.35 on turnover of one million shares. There is talk that Sir Denys Henderson, the chairman, is meeting a number of analysts tomorrow. Several brokers have already seen him and come away in a positive mood.

JH Fenner, the Hull-based power transmission engineer, which fell 41 per cent during the market crash, was the subject of revived takeover speculation and climbed 17p to 160p, after 163p. A few years ago Fenner fought off an unwanted bid from Hawker Siddeley which then sold its 25 per cent stake to Emerson Holding, a US electrical company.

Emerson said it had no intention of bidding for the rest unless it felt its shareholding was being threatened. But yesterday there was talk that someone else was building up a stake in JHF and a bid is a definite possibility.

BBA and Cranford Engineering are two suitors that have been regularly mentioned as interested in JHF. Shares of BBA rose 12p to 138p yesterday on talk of a pending acquisition.

Last month, JHF reported impressive full-year figures showing annual pretax profits up from £4.77 million to £7.6 million. Dealers believe the board will resist any takeover attempt.

Bowater Industries, the packaging and building supplies group, also reflected bid stories with a rise of 16p to 339p.

Some dealers believe that someone is already stalking the shares and feel that it could be Hanson again. Hanson built up a 12 per cent stake in Bowater during the second half of 1985 and was a strong favourite to bid before selling its stake earlier this year.

Analysts believe that Bowater offers lots of potential with the new management team headed by the chairman, Mr Norman Ireland – BTR's financial mastermind in its growth years – trying to improve margins.

Bowater last month confirmed that it was proceeding with its £129 million acquisition of Rexham, the US industrial conglomerate, despite the stock market crash. The deal was announced just a month after Bowater surprised the City by raising £89.3 million via a rights issue.

● Argyll, the Safeway supermarket chain, rose 6p to 191p. Analysts at Panmure Gordon, the broker, rate the shares a buy. They state that the strength of the Safeway brand should ensure that Argyll's rate of profit and earnings growth will comfortably match its rivals'.

Parry Group, the Hertford-based motor dealer and estate agent, advanced 10p to 208p. Mr Ron Brierley, the New Zealander, sits on a near-11 per cent stake.

Shares of Pentland Industries, the holding company which is the largest shareholder in the Reebok sports shoe company, rose 5 to 108p as the group joined the growing band of people wanting to buy shares in their own company.

Pentland yesterday revealed plans to purchase up to 27.9 million of its shares, or 10 per cent, paying no more than 250p and not less than 10p. Shareholders will be asked to vote on the proposal at an extraordinary general meeting on January 14, and if passed, Pentland will have to wait until after publication of its results for the year ending December 31, in March of next year.

Commercial Union continued to respond to takeover stories as more than three million shares changed hands and the price closed 17p better at 340p.

Television companies were given a boost by Yorkshire Television's better than expected results showing pretax profits up from £8.9 million to £13.5 million. Yorkshire TV advanced 12p to 215p on the news, while Anglia TV put on 21p to 290p. HTV gained 12p to 225p and LWT soared 40p to 703p.

ALPHA STOCKS

	Vol '000		Vol '000		Vol '000		Vol '000
Abbey	908	Costa	1,077	Lind Soc	323	Rowntree	195
Ald-Lyons	980	CU	3,285	Lapidary	69	Royal Bank	70
Amstrad	639	Cons Gold	550	LBG	709	Royal Ins	804
ASDA	350	Cookson	288	Lloyds	375	Sainsbt	946
AB Foods	189	Courtaulds	780	Lonrho	1,589	Salesbury	211
Argyll	1,576	Dalgety	401	Lucas	292	Scot & N	1,180
BAA	2,880	Dee	3,514	Maigret	336	Sears	5,888
BET	961	Dixons	595	MBS	2,789	Sedgwick	929
BTR	911	ECC	1,231	Mannagh Gn	220	Shell	1,735
BAT	1,068	Enterprise	1,022	MEPC	514	Smith & N	1,414
Barclays	1,163	Ferranti	1,489	Metal Box	1,309	STC	2,884
Bass	186	Fisons	1,519	Midland	276	Stan Chart	609
Beecham	1,440	Gen Acc	360	NatWest	421	Stanshal	351
Bicczar	361	GEC	1,035	Nrcd.	1,271	Sun Alliance	109
BICC	483	Glaxo	4,486	Nth Food	367	T & N	208
Blue Arrow	278	Globe	98	P&O	449	Tarmac	1,085
Blue Circle	238	Grcada	829	Pearl	166	Tate & Lyle	134
BOC	988	Grand Met	2,088	Pearson	319	TSB	681
Boots	2,257	GUS 'A'	356	Pilkington	4,859	Tesco	1,099
BPB	295	GRE	115	Plessey	5,089	Thorn EMI	604
Br Aero	693	GKN	609	Prudential	318	Trafalgar	899
Br Airways	1,193	Guinness	1,276	Racal	1,816	THF	587
Br Comm	98	Hamm 'A'	183	Rk Hovis	305	Ultramar	2,882
Br Gas	1,171	Hanson	4,281	Rank	1,184	Unigate	285
Br Petrol	5,009	Hawker	288	R&C	39	Unilever	399
Br Telecm	3,143	Hawley	448	Redland	208	United Bis	511
Britoil	41,078	Hillsdown	924	Reed	277	Utd Newsp	88
Bunzl	323	IMI	128	Reuters	927	Wellcome	7,125
Burmah	48	ICI	1,155	RMC Gp	840	Whitbrd	1,121
Burton	225	Jaguar	378	RTZ	1,589	Willis Fab	142
C&W	6,029	Lasmo	611	R-Royce	5,565	Woolworth	1,814
Cadbury	679	Ladbroke	1,085	Rothmn 'B'	81	Equities page 25	

TEMPUS

£33m goal for Norton Opax

While there was much adverse comment about possible earnings dilution at the time of the bitterly contested takeover of McCorquodale Group, Norton Opax appears to have succeeded in pleasing the market with its better-than-expected results.

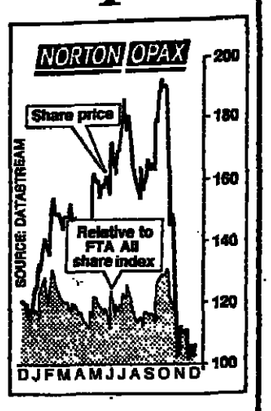
However, as with most acquisitions these days, it always pays to look behind the figures in the first year of consolidation to examine the reorganization provisions. These are amounts written off the acquired company's balance sheet through group reserves to accommodate asset write-downs, restructuring costs or other similar costs which, if the company had not been taken over, would have had to have been taken through the profit and loss account.

Arguably, McCorquodale's balance sheet was overstated. It should, perhaps, have written off the intangibles itself. However, £18 million has been charged direct to reserves by Norton Opax, a hefty sum in the context of £25 million profits for an 18-month period.

Net gains after tax of £2.2 million on disposals of peripheral businesses and property was taken below the line as an extraordinary item.

The combined group has seven divisions, of which the largest, in profit terms, is security products which includes printing of cheque books and credit cards. In this division, special products (lottery tickets and promotional games) and paperback printing, Norton Opax is a market leader and future growth is likely to be limited to the rate of growth in the market as a whole. In the case of cheque books, this is about 4 per cent a year.

However, in packaging, magazine and commercial printing and its international operations, there are significant growth opportunities. To maintain its 20 per cent realized growth rate of the last three years, Norton Opax must produce pretax profits of £33 million this year. At this level, the prospective multiple is about 8.5 and the yield 5 per cent. The rating implies a credibility gap.



Greene, King

It was no thanks to beer volumes that Greene, King managed to increase half-year profits and widen margins from 10.8 per cent to 11.8 per cent.

Instead, the East Anglian brewer had to resort to cost savings, a more profitable product mix and growing non-mainstream beer wholesaling interests.

Ale volumes fell a couple of per cent although lager demand grew by at least 4 per cent. Both experiences mirrored the industry. But it was surprising that the strong ale brands did not enable the group to buck the trend.

The antipodean stake, now well above 10 per cent, has pushed the rating up to unsustainable levels. Yet the fate of any future Elders bid is unpromising.

The Monopolies and Mergers Commission would be obliged to step in, while the Harp shareholding makes Guinness a useful ally, and could prevent Elders from promoting Fosters. The stake is unlikely to be attractive to outsiders while other brewers, unless regionals, would also be cramped by the MMC.

Thus, despite its regular earnings growth, it is hard to see Greene, King justifying a prospective p-e ratio of 19.9 times. This is on the perfectly reasonable expectation of pretax profits of £14.5 million for the full year. Even the bid premium is already in the price.

Yorks TV in tune

In a year when industry has been falling over itself to advertise its products and services, no self-respecting television company can fail to have made progress, but Yorkshire Television has sparkled, with a 16.5 per cent increase in advertising income, three points better than average.

At the same time its pedigree in programme-making is underlined by its position as leading supplier to Channel 4. The upshot is a surprisingly good surge in pretax profits from £8.93 million to £13.54 million, lifting earnings by half, from 16.1p to 24.2p.

Yorkshire's problem will be maintaining its refreshingly vibrant image when the growth rate slows this year. It makes light of the stock market slump and its possible repercussions, but even so it is budgeting for no more than a 7.5 per cent increase in advertising revenue this time.

With programme sales growth limited by the same cartel that has upset the regional contractors, Yorkshire will this year rely heavily on cost-cutting to sustain its growth/profit performance, and here substantial headway is apparently being made with important new agreements being struck with the unions.

Looking further ahead, the independent television picture will become increasingly blurred over the next four years, as Parliament and the IBA twiddle with the controls. Next year brings changes in the ITV programme supply arrangements, then comes the Broadcasting Bill, and, in 1991, the franchises are up.

How independent television emerges is at this stage anyone's guess. What can be said is that, from this side, none looks in better shape than Yorkshire.

Truce declared in battle of TR Technology Trust

By Lawrence Lever

A truce was declared yesterday in the battle over the future of the £320 million TR Technology Investment Trust when Firmandale Investments unilaterally withdrew its requisition of an extraordinary general meeting of TRT shareholders.

Firmandale, a Jersey nominee company advised by Berkeley Govett, the financial services group, had built up a 27 per cent stake in TRT and called the meeting to vote on restructuring proposals which would involve the transfer of the management of TRT either in whole or part to Berkeley.

The move triggered the usual mudslinging with TRT and Berkeley attacking one another's records and blaming each other for the breakdown of negotiations.

Mr Arthur Trueger, the chairman of Berkeley, said yesterday that withdrawal of the meeting was a "gesture of goodwill" aimed at promoting a mutually acceptable resolution on the future of TRT in the best interests of shareholders.

He said that a large shareholder in the trust had written to TRT expressing a preference for a compromise solution. "A bit of a dialogue" between the advisers on each side had revealed a similar desire by the parties involved.

Mr Trueger said the withdrawal of the meeting requisition was not a sign of weakness. "There have been two previous attempts at reaching a compromise. We want to give it one last try. Firmandale still holds 27 per cent of TR Technology."

The stalking of TRT has been unusual in that TRT and Berkeley Govett have for a number of years been close associates. Touche helped to market Berkeley to British investors in its formative years and Berkeley provided a large number of unquoted investments for the TRT portfolio.

Another unusual aspect has been the ownership of Firmandale. It is financed by a consortium of 10 banks and institutions – one of which has a 20 per cent stake in Berkeley. However, the terms on which the financing has been arranged, and in particular the existence of any indemnity or comfort arrangements, has not been revealed.

Although Berkeley supplied the names of the 10 institutions yesterday, there was still some disquiet in the TRT camp that the information, while complying with the law, was not as full as it would have wished.

WH Smith £3.6m buy in Hawaii

WH Smith, the bookseller, is expanding its overseas retail operation with the purchase of 32 stores in Hawaii, US, from Pomore, a local retail group. The acquisition will cost a maximum of $6.7 million (£3.64 million) plus the value of the stock in the stores.

WH Smith already has a chain of 276 Elson's stores in the US, having added about 60 outlets since the acquisition of Elson's in 1985.

Brasway £1m interim profit

Brasway, the West Midlands engineering company, reported record interim results yesterday. Profits before tax and a £27,906 exceptional item more than doubled from £502,696 to £1.05 million. The interim dividend was increased from 0.25p to 0.3p net.

RECENT ISSUES

EQUITIES			
Ald Restaurants	80	–1	
Brit Pet P/P	71½	–½	
Bute Mining (100p)	130	+5	
Co of Designers (100p)	105	–1	
Dolphin Packg (100p)	106	+3	
Eurotunnel	248		
Eurotunnel Wrnts	15	+1½	
Fairway London	76	+1	
Gaelic Res	4½		
Hard Rock Cafe	128	–2	
Do 'A'	88		
ISA Int (60p)	80		
Lloyd Thomp (170p)	138		
Mayne Nickless	163		
Nestor-BNA (75p)	79	+3	
Paragon Comms	91	+1	
Power Corp	65		
Record (68p)	58		
Rolls-Royce (170p)	169	–1	
Rural Plan	83		
Sec Archives	145		
Shaftsbury (180p)	186	+1	
Sharog	105		
Sykes-Pickavant	118		
Tomorrows Leisure	31		
Trevlan Hldgs	88		
Tubular Exhib	20	–1	
URS Inv	48		
USDC Inv	105		

Wiskins Secs	28	+2
Zetters Leis	128	
RIGHTS ISSUES		
Apid Holographic N/P	20	–3
City & For N/P	2	
ERA Gp N/P	26	
Gr West 8% N/P		
Lands Hldgs N/P	13	
RKF Gp N/P	¾	

(Issue price in brackets).

BASE LENDING RATES

ABN	8.50%
Adam & Company	9.00%
BCCI	8.50%
Consolidated Crds	8.50%
Co-operative Bank	9.00%
C. Hoare & Co	8.50%
Hong Kong & Shanghai	8.50%
Lloyds Bank	8.50%
Nat Westminster	8.50%
Royal Bank of Scotland	8.50%
TSB	9.00%
Citibank NA	8.50%

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INVESTORS IN INDUSTRY GROUP PLC.

INTERIM STATEMENT

In the six months to 30 September new investment was £288m, an increase of £89m over the same period last year. This has been substantially funded from cash flow, but the opportunity has since been taken of augmenting the resources available to meet a continuing high level of demand by the issue of £125m of Floating Rate Notes.

The six months' unaudited consolidated results set out below are presented on the historic cost basis. The provisions charge for the period takes into consideration subsequent stock market changes and the current economic uncertainty. The estimated effect on investment assets of the market fall between 30 September and 30 November has been to reduce the surplus over cost from £827m to £427m. At 31 March the surplus was £679m.

In order to reduce the disparity between the interim and final payments the amount of the interim dividend has been increased to 4 pence per share (£4,621,408) from 2.5 pence per share (£2,883,493).

SIX MONTHS' UNAUDITED CONSOLIDATED RESULTS

	6 months to 30 September 1987 £000	6 months to 30 September 1986 £000	Year to 31 March 1987 £000
Group income	108,398	98,197	194,605
Associated companies	4,067	2,958	6,362
	112,465	101,155	200,967
Profits less losses on realisation	91,963	28,538	63,442
Provisions	(40,127)	(9,981)	(24,487)
Income from operations	164,301	119,712	239,922
Operating costs	22,375	19,767	39,548
Profit before interest on borrowings	141,926	99,945	200,374
Interest on borrowings	65,785	67,732	133,591
Profit before exceptional item and tax	76,141	32,213	66,783
Exceptional item issue expenses	223	4	392
Profit before tax	75,918	32,209	66,391
Estimated tax	20,693	9,643	18,633
Profit after tax and before extraordinary items	55,225	22,566	47,758
Extraordinary items	63	8,428	8,243
	55,288	30,994	56,001

NOTE:
The figures for the year ended 31 March 1987 are taken from accounts filed with the Registrar of Companies and the auditors' report was unqualified.

INVESTORS IN INDUSTRY GROUP PLC. 91 WATERLOO ROAD, LONDON SE1 8XP

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Arco set to follow BP lead with full bid for Britoil

By David Young and Kerry Gill

BP and Atlantic Richfield (Arco), the two leading oil companies locked in battle over Britoil, the Glasgow oil group that is now the world's largest pure exploration company, are both believed to be prepared to make full takeover bids to win control.

Tomorrow, they will start their race to be first in picking up a 29.9 per cent stake in Britoil; in BP's case to win control of the company and in Arco's to take a 49.9 per cent stake and leave control with the management.

Arco, however, said it would be ready to follow BP into the market place with a full bid.

With BP saying it is prepared to top Arco's 350p a share offer, it is likely that Britoil's shares, which started the year well below £2, will be above £4 by the end of this week's trading account.

The original BP tender offer to buy a 29.9 per cent holding for 300p, scuppered by Arco's counter-attack, expires at the opening of business tomorrow. BP has said it will then move into the market and is prepared to pay a higher price.

Arco, which under Takeover Panel rules will not be allowed to move from beyond a 29.9 per cent stake to 49.9 per cent without making a full bid, has said that even if it does win a majority holding it will leave control of the company in Scotland.

Arco is prepared to inject its non-US assets into Britoil, increasing its overseas oil exploration portfolio by about 30 per cent and giving the Glasgow company extensive acreage in Indonesia, where oil has been found.

The Britoil management is attempting to gain support for the Arco proposals and Arco points out that there should be no government objection to a US company taking such a holding, especially as BP was allowed to take over Sohio, the US oil company, with no US government interference.



Winner takes all: Lodwrick Cook, chairman of Arco (left) and David Walker, Britoil chief

Mr Lodwrick Cook, the Arco chairman, yesterday said his company was determined to win the race for a 29.9 per cent stake in Britoil.

If Arco managed to beat BP's hostile bid for Britoil, the company would be set to expand its activities beyond the US, but control would still be left with Britoil.

Mr Cook, speaking in Glasgow where he was joined by Mr David Walker, Britoil's chief executive, said: "This would give us the opportunity to expand our activities beyond the US where we are very large. We see this as a way to balance our portfolio overseas."

Mr Cook also pledged that the Glasgow company's jobs would be safe. A furore followed BP's bid when it was feared that many of the 720 jobs at the Glasgow headquarters and 900 within its North Sea operations could disappear under BP.

With Arco's involvement, said Mr Walker, he would envisage more rather than fewer jobs. He emphasized, however, that he was not expressing any preference for one company or another. But, he added: "I have always said our company is undervalued in the market place.

"BP's action was unexpected. We did not know it was happening. We regard it as a hostile approach."

Mr Walker said BP and Britoil operated in the same areas and there would be conflicts of interest.

3i beats record with £75.9m

By Lawrence Lever

Investors in Industry (3i), the venture capital institution owned by the British clearing banks, yesterday turned in half-year figures reflecting both the high and low points of the British stock market this year.

The company made record pretax profits of £75.9 million in the six months to September 30, comfortably beating the £66.3 million made in the whole of last year — itself an all-time high.

Mr Donald Clarke, the 3i finance director, attributed the surge in profits to the company's deliberate policy in the early summer this year of selling a substantial amount of its quoted investments.

"We considered that the market was overheated so we took the top off our quoted portfolio," Mr Clarke explained.

This meant the company realized net profits of £91.9 million on disposals of its investments, compared with £28.5 million in the corresponding half-year period last time.

However, the effects of the stock market crash in October, coupled with an uncertain outlook for corporate earnings, have dramatically reduced the surplus value of 3i's investment assets, which consist of investments in both quoted and unquoted companies.

The surplus over cost on these assets fell 48.3 per cent in just two months — from £827 million on September 30 to £427 million on November 30.

Mr Clarke, explaining why the fall had outstripped the percentage drop in the stock market, said: "There are individual elements in this decline.

"A number of companies which were expected to float did not.

"We therefore now have to go back to valuing them on an unquoted basis."

The stock market crash has also led to 3i making provisions of £40 million against realizations of investments — more than four times the £9.9 million the company made in the corresponding six-month period of last year.

Almost all of this is a precautionary step to cover potential losses on disposals.

"It is a very provisional provision — a cautious move," Mr Clarke said.

"We will review the figure at the end of the year," he added.

COMMENT

Nissan finds bluebird of happiness in UK

Nissan's plan to expand car production at Washington to 200,000 vehicles a year in 1992 is the lastest and biggest confirmation of the success of the project. Nissan's original investment might be seen as a response to the problem of import quotas and as building a base in friendly Britain to make an impact in the European Community market as a whole. The introduction of large-scale Micra production alongside the Bluebird, while envisaged originally, has also been made more urgent by the rise of the yen.

Small cars carry smaller margins, easily destroyed by currency changes. Even in its home market, the troubled Nissan has been trying to concentrate its marketing efforts on more costly models. The Bluebird is being sold here on built-in extras rather than on price and it will be intriguing to see if that policy will have to change to sell 100,000 Micras.

The choice of 1992, the year when barriers to trade within the Community are supposed to tumble, is a reminder of the complex arguments about inward investment. While state aid for Nissan may be questioned, it would be hard for any but the most blinkered competitor to claim that the Japanese group's investment in Britain has not been good for the economy, not only the North East.

The three existing multinationals, Ford, General Motors and Peugeot, allocate their production around Europe more according to production cost advantage than local market needs. Once its production comes outside the Japanese import quota, Nissan output could in part substitute for that of Rover/Honda, especially in small cars. Since much of the production is scheduled for export within Europe, however, there is a clear gain in production as well as in competition.

This is a just reward for Britain's open stance towards inward investment. While France, the Benelux countries and others are now anxious for Japanese investment, openness has helped make Britain a strong base for Japanese investment in Europe.

Most of that investment has been in new production and extra competition. Much the same can be said for Japanese investment in the US, where they have tried to avoid controversy by eschewing the takeovers generally favoured by British, French and German groups.

The American public and Congress is becoming increasingly hostile to direct foreign investment, which is bound to grow as a percentage of the trade deficit as foreigners tire of losing money on US Treasury Bills. The foreign investment row, ironically mainly directed at Japan, is likely to prove even fiercer than demands for trade protection.

Within the EEC, too, the idea of foreigners buying into domestic companies is certainly still not viewed in the spirit of 1992. Edouard Balladur, the French finance minister, told bankers in Paris yesterday that foreign investment in French companies had to be controlled and that he would continue to "examine projects from the point of view of the French economy in its entirety." Nissan would probably not have been allowed in to compete with Renault and Peugeot.

Investment from other EEC countries is most likely, initially, to take the form of acquisitions of existing companies. Both France and Germany (through its cartel office) have been adept at keeping their partners out whenever they feel like it. It is fair to resist attempts by the likes of Italy's Ferruzzi to establish a monopolistic position in sugar around the Community. But that should mainly be of concern in Brussels. At the moment it seems likely that the creation of Europe-wide companies is unlikely to flow as it naturally would from the breakdown of barriers — unless the multinational are headquartered in France or Germany.

Thinking men's buys

The battle for Britoil, no less than the Kuwait Investment Office's purchase of 13 per cent of BP and Elf's offer for Tricentrol, is a classic case of long-term thinkers taking advantage of the stock market crash to pick up real assets on the cheap. Around the world, the energy sector has shown the eleventh biggest fall of the 38 sectors monitored by Morgan Stanley Capital International, with a 29 per cent drop from the year's high in dollar terms.

Oil is a cyclical industry. But it is hard to see why oil shares have suffered on the same scale as financial services, conglomerates and some of the high-flying growth sectors.

As in the battle for B-Cal, the Government again finds itself having to take a view either in favour of one of the bidders or in favour of a free-for-all — in this case because of its golden share. For much the same reasons, there seems little reason to exercise Whitehall's power of veto.

With BP, Britoil would remain British. With Arco, it would remain an independent North Sea force with potentially more clout than before. Decisions on future control can probably be left to shareholders.

Unless Arco goes for a full bid, BP would start with a hefty advantage. Even with a straight choice, BP gains from its earlier cheap buying, which would reduce the overall price. It may not be a decisive advantage, however, since big institutions may see a beefed-up Britoil controlled by Arco as increasing their portfolio choice.

Ward White pays £27m for DIY firm

By Alison Eadie

Ward White, the speciality retailer, has bought Paul Madeley Holdings, a privately-owned do-it-yourself retailer in Leeds, for £27 million cash.

The owners are three brothers, Messrs Paul, John and Michael Madeley. Mr Paul Madeley used to play football for Leeds United and England in the late 1960s and early 1970s when Leeds was at the top of its form under Mr Don Revie, the manager. The decision to sell the business was sparked by the retirement of Mr John Madeley.

Ward White will integrate the stores into its Payless DIY operations. Madeley has 26 stores in Yorkshire, Devon and Cornwall, but nine are too small and will be sold, Mr Philip Birch, the chairman and managing director of Ward White, said.

Madeley made pretax profits in the year to end-August of £2.4 million on sales of £30 million. Net assets were £6.1 million.

There is no overlap with existing Payless stores, which are mainly concentrated in the South-east. There are 75 Payless stores at present but by the end of next year there should be 103, Mr Birch said.

Trading at Payless is strong, he added, and has not yet shown the usual pre-Christmas slowdown. In the half year to end-July, Ward White made pretax profits of £20.1 million on a turnover of £365 million. Its retailing operations include Halfords car accessories, Whitlock car parts, Zodiac Toys, and Owen Owen department stores.

Guinness in £45m sale of Distillers CO2

By Our City Staff

Guinness yesterday completed its divestment programme with the sale of Distillers CO2, the carbon dioxide supplier, for about £45 million cash to Messer Griesheim, a West German industrial gases and welding equipment group.

Guinness said it was "quite pleased" with the sale proceeds, which brings the total realized from disposals since April this year to £400 million.

Distillers CO2 made pretax profits of £3.4 million in the year to March 31 and had net assets at that date of £1.4 million.

Mr Anthony Tennant, the Guinness chief-executive, said: "I believe the deal is good for Guinness and Distillers CO2. In line with our declared strategy, this divestment will allow us to concentrate our financial and management resources on our international spirits and brewing businesses."

Guinness has spent about £350 million on acquisitions, including the £300 million purchase of Schenley, the US drinks distributor which numbers Gordon's gin and Dewar's whisky among its products.

Brent Walker engages partners at Trocadero

By Cliff Feltham

Mr George Walker, the former boxer, has proved he is still fast on his feet by setting up a new joint venture company to redevelop the Trocadero site in Piccadilly Circus, London, and making a quick profit of up to £10 million in a few months.

His Brent Walker leisure group, which paid £90 million for the 3.5-acre site in September, is selling it for £100 million to Walker Power, a new company in which it will take a 50 per cent stake.

His partners are Amec, the building and construction group and Power Corporation, the retail centre developers.

"My original plans for redeveloping the Trocadero are unchanged," said Mr Walker. "But instead of hiring people to work for me I have now gone into partnership with them."

His plans include opening a new Talk of the Town cabaret restaurant with seating for 750, a five-screen cinema for audiences of up to 2,500, a casino and other leisure facilities including a gymnasium.

There will also be more shops and offices in the project, which is to be increased in size

NBH launches £219m offer for Peko

From Richard Battley
Sydney

The marriage of two of Australia's oldest mining companies, Peko-Wallsend and North Broken Hill, was abruptly cancelled yesterday when the latter announced an Aus$566 million (£219 million) takeover offer.

NBH unveiled its offer, two of its own shares — which closed at Aus$2.78 yesterday — and Aus$1 cash for each share of its once-intended, after the close of trading here. This is 24 per cent above Peko's Aus$5.30 closing price.

If successful, NBH will control 64 per cent of Australia's premier uranium miner, Energy Resources of Australia (ERA).

Mr Peter Wade, NBH managing director, said the offer would not extend to shares issued via the exercise of Peko option. However, if 90 per cent ownership were acquired, the company would meet its obligations and make an appropriate offer. There are 84 million options outstanding. If exercised, they would constitute 49 per cent of Peko's expanded capital.

Peko said the offer did not "appear to be keeping with the tenor" of the secret marriage talks. Nor did it adequately recognize Peko's profits or its value.

Peko said NBH shares last week were about Aus$2.50 each and the bid, therefore, valued Peko at Aus$6 a share. Peko also said it had bought a significant stake in NBH in the past fortnight which had boosted the latter's shares.

Analysts said the NBH move would enable the company to diversify its specialist operations. Mr Chris Sabin of Potter Partners, the Melbourne broker, cited Peko's Robe River iron ore interests, a field in which NBH was inexperienced.

Peko and NBH share a common interest in ERA. Peko has a 33 per cent stake and NBH 31 per cent in the company.

Beauty is no sort of beast

Gilberte Beaux, life-long financial adviser to Sir James Goldsmith — who will now be known to history as the man who got out of the stock market three months before the crash of 1987 — is, I can reveal, no longer a bear. Mme Beaux, a secretary-turned-merchant banker who recently resigned as managing director of Goldsmith's former French master company, Générale Occidentale, to concentrate on politics, spoke about privatization at a French Chamber of Commerce luncheon in London yesterday. Afterwards, she told me that she was cautiously optimistic about world stock markets. "I'm not a bear, but nor am I a bull," she said. "I would not be a seller of stock at the moment, nor would I increase my exposure — it is a time to wait and see. There is still so much political uncertainty, especially in America, that nobody really knows what is going to happen next." As Goldsmith's favourite negotiator and corporate strategist, it is interesting to discover, however, that she approves of the activities of those cash-rich companies currently carrying out a spate of corporate raids on likely bid targets. "For corporate investors it is a time to buy," she says, "if there is something they particularly want to buy, or if they want to arbitrage." Wise words.

Thrashed out

Young investment analysts from all districts of Wall Street danced until the early hours last night at a party in a Manhattan pub, The North Star, billed as "the final yuppie blow-out." For many, it was the only Christmas celebration they are likely to have. Using the stock market crash as an excuse, scrooges among the senior management of a number of US securities houses have abandoned plans for office parties.



"I'm not looking forward to the poll tax, I can tell you"

Among those to do so are Bear Sterns, Shearson Lehman, E F Hutton and Morgan Stanley — although the latter has never had a Christmas party in any case. First Boston, which last year gave a huge thrash at the National Guard Armory in Manhattan, is making donations to two charities — for the homeless and the needy — and Pru Bache, while going ahead with its party plans, says it will be done "sensitively and sensibly." Call that a party?

● America's fertile memorabilia industry, which brought you Pope-on-a-Rope souvenirs to commemorate the Papal visit to the United States, again leads the way. Recycled Paper Products Inc. of Chicago is offering a Christmas card bearing a sketch of Oliver North in a Father Christmas outfit under the greeting: "'Tis the season to be Ollie." The message inside reads: "Do not shred until after Dec 25."

THE TIMES CITY DIARY

Lunch table story

What is the difference between security printer Norton Opax and the building, property and lighting group, Whitecroft? Not a lot, it seems. Both announced figures yesterday and gave presentations to the press and analysts in the City offices of public relations firm Streets Financial, followed by lunch in adjacent dining rooms. However, after his presentation to reporters, Richard Hanwell, Norton Opax chief executive, took a wrong turning and arrived by mistake at the Whitecroft lunch. He proceeded to answer analysts' questions for many minutes before realizing that something was wrong, whereupon he rose to his feet and departed. The analysts, I am told, faithfully took notes of his every word and were somewhat startled at his departure. Should make for interesting brokers' circulars

Sheiking the oilmen

The Kuwait oil minister, Sheik Ali Khalifa, a member of the ruling Al-Sabbah royal family, gave an impressive display of his knowledge of the workings of the City during the Opec meeting in Vienna. With his country embroiled in the BP-Britoil saga through its 13 per cent holding in BP, the minister fended off questions about BP from the inquisitive British by saying: "I know nothing. I am the oil minister and such matters are left purely to the Kuwait Investment Office." However, just when all were nearly convinced, he went on to lecture Tom Miskell, oil analyst at Warburg, about the intracacies of the Government's golden share in Britoil and how it could affect the outcome of current bids — a subject on which Tom regards himself as something of an expert since he was formerly assistant to the Britoil chairman. Returning swiftly to less controversial subjects however, the pair wagered a bet, for a nominal dollar, on the oil price. The Sheik was heard to guffaw loudly when Tom offered to pay up "in a basket of currencies."

● Feeling a little cramped in that two-bedroomed flat in Chelsea? For the £250,000 it would probably fetch, you could buy a 100-acre island with 50 inhabitants, a yacht harbour, restaurant and bar, museum, fish smoking plant and 4½ miles of salmon fishing. Businessman Christopher Nicholson, who bought Easdale Island, off west Scotland, eight years ago is, I hear, open to offers.

Carol Leonard

Uniform look at Midland branches

By Richard Thomson
Banking Correspondent

Midland Bank customers should not be alarmed if the girl behind the counter next year resembles an airline stewardess. The bank is introducing uniforms for all its branch staff.

The uniforms, called the "Midland Collection," are the result of extensive research among customers and staff.

They are predominantly navy blue and grey, designed to look modern yet restrained, smart yet not severe, business-like yet undaunting. Female staff may wear red cravats with their blue or grey jackets or a pink floral dress for variety. Male staff must be content with striped ties.

The new uniform is part of Midland's drive to differentiate its image from that of other high street banks and will be introduced progressively in all branches next year.

The announcement coincides with the opening of the bank's new branch at Oxford Circus, London's busiest shopping area. With a special interior design, the branch is meant to banish feelings of unease which customers are traditionally believed to experience when entering a bank.

The branch will also stay open from 9.30am to 5pm on weekdays, 9.30am to 7pm on Thursdays and 9.30am to 3.30pm on Saturdays.

WHITECROFT

34% INCREASE IN PROFIT

INTERIM RESULTS
TO 30 SEPTEMBER 1987

		1987 £'000	1986 £'000
Turnover	up 22%	65,563	53,942
Pre-tax profits	up 34%	4,820	3,591
Dividends	up 15%	3.45p	3.00p

"We are maintaining a high level of new investment in our existing businesses, none of which is significantly affected by recent currency changes. Results to date in the second half are well above last year and we expect this pattern to continue."

Tom Weatherby, Chairman

WHITECROFT plc

Textiles, Building Supplies, Lighting, Property Development.

A copy of the Interim Report may be obtained from: The Secretary, Whitecroft plc, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire SK9 5BX. Telephone: 0625 524677.

Whitecroft chief 'considering all options on Eleco'

By Colin Campbell

Whitecroft, the industrial holding company, is "considering all its options" over Eleco Holdings, in which it retains a 12 per cent interest after its failed bid for the group 16 months ago, Mr Tom Weatherby, Whitecroft chairman, said yesterday.

Announcing Whitecroft's interim results for the six months ended September, Mr Weatherby said Eleco was still relevant in Whitecroft's eyes and in current market conditions the board was "watching carefully." He declined to elaborate, though indicated that Eleco remained a complementary business.

Whitecroft's interim pretax profit rose from £3.59 million to £4.82 million, on a turnover up from £53.9 million to £65.6 million, helped by general advances across its four divisions and improved margins. The interim dividend is being raised from 3p to 3.45p.

Mr Weatherby said the benefits from earlier capital investment and acquisitions were now coming through to the profit line. Results so far in the second half of the financial year were running ahead of last year's levels.

He said: "We are maintaining a high level of new investment in our existing businesses, none of which is significantly affected by recent currency changes."

The interim interest charge rose from a comparative £171,000 to £458,000, but the year-on-year charge is expected to stay around last year's £1 million mark. Gearing is currently at roughly 33 per cent, and the group remains acquisition minded.

Whitecroft raised £15 million in a one-for-three rights issue at 210p each last December and remains well funded.

The group has recently broadened its range of activities taking in domestic interests, to complement commercial activities, within its building supplies division, and now supplies lighting on a commercial basis through outlets such as BHS and Habitat.

Its property development interests earned half-time profits of £934,000 compared with £327,000.

Whitecrfot shares were 13p higher at 273p yesterday.

After reporting year-end profits of £9.1 million for the year ended March, analysts are now conservatively expecting pretax profits of £11.7 million in the current year.

Producers urge Lawson to change whisky tax system

By Edward Townsend, Industrial Correspondent

Scotch whisky producers, who claim they are discriminated against by the Treasury, yesterday called for the tax on all drinks to be determined by alcoholic strength.

The Scotch Whisky Association claimed the price of a £7.50 bottle of Scotch – from which the distillers, blenders, wholesalers and retailers shared a total net profit of 49p – would fall to £5.29 if it were taxed on the same basis as wine.

In a submission to Mr Nigel Lawson, the Chancellor of the Exchequer, before the 1988 Budget, the association says it wants a commitment to introduce within five years a system of excise duty that has the same rate of tax per degree of alcoholic strength for all alcoholic beverages, "in line with his stated principle of fiscal neutrality."

Mr John Macphail, the association chairman, said: "Scotch whisky pays excise duty at almost twice the rate of beer and wine on a per degree of alcohol basis. A much more rapid shift in the burden of duty from spirits to wine and beer can be accomplished without loss of revenue or any significant impact on beer sales.

"Imports of wine might be affected but this would simply reflect the loss of its present privileged taxation position."

On a £7.50 bottle of Scotch, duty accounts for £4.73 (63 per cent) of the VAT inclusive price, VAT 98p (13 per cent), corporation tax 3.5 per cent and production costs 14 per cent, with gross profit to the producers and sellers of £1.79, or a net profit of 49p (6.5 per cent).

The association called on Mr Lawson for a "sea change" in taxation, including a statutory maturation allowance for all stocks of Scotch distilled in previous years, in line with producers' statutory requirement to mature whisky for the same period.

This would partly offset the tax on the inflation element in Scotch, which, said the association, was the equivalent of eight years of sales.

Mr Macphail said Scotch producers paid an effective rate of corporation tax of 44 per cent against 35 per cent paid by most commercial enterprises. The Treasury had never advanced a defence of the "discriminatory" lack of acceptance of the inflation element in maturing stocks.

The association had told the Chancellor that the continuing erosion of "a unique national asset" through taxation was of great concern. "The margin of tax disadvantage is quite out of line with the market realities and must be rectified as a matter of great priority," said Mr Macphail.

LME guide takes detached view of 'the devil's metal'

By Colin Narbrough

As perceptions about commodities, and metals in particular, shift in the post-Black Monday reassessment, Rudolf Wolff, the metal broker, has issued a new edition of its authoritative guide to the London Metal Exchange, the world's main metals market.

The 267-page work, published jointly with *Metal Bulletin*, the trade journal, updates the last version from 1980 of what is the standard work for anyone, amateur or professional, interested in metals.

The edition was held back in orderto be able to incorporate the latest developments so crucial to the LME's future: the changes required under the new regularity framework for the City, the switch to a clearing system, the introduction of traded options, and the recovery from the tin trauma.

Its analysis of the tin crisis, caused by the failure of the International Tin Council's buffer stock arrangements in October 1985, makes interesting reading.

Such a cool review of the dramatic events, which initially left a £900 million trail of bad debt, would probably not have been possible earlier.

It comes now as the London Metal Exchange is once again discussing openly the possibility of re-launching a tin contract, more than two years since it suspended tin following the ITC disaster.

Tin, the authors point out, is called the "devil's metal" by miners in Bolivia, and the London Metal Exchange might be forgiven for thinking that it has been touched by the curse.

The chapter on the sorry tale of the ITC, from the discovery that the buffer stock was insolvent to the High Court battles, includes the words of Mr Robert Gibson-Jarvie, a director of MMC Metals. "The whole operation would have been incompatible with a properly conducted cleared market." So much for hindsight.

The guide predicts that litigation arising from the ITC failure will go on for a long time, but underlines that the ITC's role is finished.

"Its collapse marks the end of one of the most long-lived efforts by governments to interfere in an international commodity market. Its story should be a salutary warning to any future inter-government cartel."

Wolff's Guide to the London Metal Exchange (Third Edition), £36.

Texaco pact 'may open door for Icahn'

New York (Reuter) – An accord reached last week between Pennzoil and a group of Texaco shareholders could make Texaco vulnerable to a restructuring by Mr Carl Icahn, the financier who controls 12.3 per cent of its stock, legal sources said.

On Friday, Pennzoil said it had reached agreement with the shareholder group calling for Texaco to make a $3 billion (£1.63 billion) payment to settle its dispute with Pennzoil.

As part of the accord, Mr Icahn and the shareholders are seeking 12 new seats on Texaco's board and the elimination of Texaco's anti-takeover measures, legal sources said.

Mr Frederick Leuffer, an analyst at Cyrus J Lawrence Inc, said: "Stage one, the litigation, is coming to an end. "Stage two, the restructuring by Mr Icahn, may now be starting." Another analyst said there could be a restructuring to raise the value of Texaco's stock, benefiting Mr Icahn.

The bankruptcy court overseeing Texaco's case gave its creditor committee, shareholder committee and Pennzoil the chance to settle without Texaco directors' consent. Texaco filed for bankruptcy last April to forestall enforcement of the $10.3 billion judgment awarded to Pennzoil.

Texaco's creditors could still undermine the settlement proposal if they decline to give their consent.



Carl Icahn: controls 12.3%

Japanese economy 'will grow 3.6%'

Tokyo (Reuter) – The Japanese economy is expected to expand 3.6 per cent in the year starting next April after growth of 3.9 per in the current fiscal year, Nomura Research Institute said yesterday in an economic forecast.

Domestic demand will expand GNP by 4.8 per cent in fiscal 1988, after 5 per cent in the current fiscal year. External demand will lower GNP by 1.2 per cent, after a negative impact of about 1 per cent this year, the Nomura Securities affiliate said.

The trade surplus is expected to fall to $85 billion (£46 billion) from $91.1 billion while the current account surplus will fall to $75.1 billion from $81 billion, it said.

"The Japanese economy, led by domestic demand, is expected to remain strong because of the positive impact of the yen's appreciation now appearing and the continuation of expansionary fiscal and monetary policies," the report said.

Nomura Research expects the government to adopt a 3,000 billion yen (£12.5 billion) supplementary budget next fiscal year to stimulate growth.

The Bank of Japan is expected to continue to follow an easy credit policy, although it is not expected to cut its 2.5 per cent discount rate, the report added.

However, Mr Hirohiko Okumura, Nomura's chief research economist, said the Bank of Japan might be forced to cut the discount rate if the U.S. enters a recession, the dollar falls beyond 120 yen or the Tokyo stock market drops sharply.

Nomura said inflation in Japan will remain low due to the strong yen, with consumer prices rising 1 per cent in fiscal 1988 after a 0.5 per cent increase this year.

ATTENTION BRITOIL SHAREHOLDERS.

Britoil advises you not to accept the BP Tender Offer.

Britoil

TRADITIONAL OPTIONS

First Dealings	Last Dealings	Last Declaration	For Settlement
December 14	December 31	March 17	March 28

Call options were taken out on: 14/12/87 *Lonrho*, BOMS, Southend Stadium, Rank Hovis, Eagle Trust, Ultramar, North Kalgurli Mines, ICI, BATS, Pilkington.

LONDON TRADED OPTIONS

	Series	Calls Jan	Calls Apr	Calls Jul	Puts Jan	Puts Apr	Puts Jul
Allid Lyon... ('327)	300	38	50	57	8	17	27
	330	15	35	40	15	30	42
	360	7	23	28	42	50	60
Bass ('784)	750	60	90	113	23	42	55
	800	33	65	88	50	65	80
	850	13	45	68	87	96	112
Brit Air ('437)	120	24	29	35	4	9	14
	130	17	24	30	7	12	18
	140	11	19	24	13	18	23
Brit Com ('239)	280	27	42	55	15	25	32
	300	13	30	42	25	37	50
	330	7	20	32	50	60	65
Brit Gas ('124)	120	11	15	22	5	10	14
	130	6	10	15	11	17	20
	140	–	6	10	–	28	30
BP ('244)	240	16	27	37	11	20	27
	260	5	16	27	25	35	37
	280	–	11	16	–	50	55
Britoil ('371)	300	81	88	95	6	17	25
	330	54	70	83	12	23	33
	360	34	50	65	16	37	47
Cons Gold ('970)	800	200	220	240	17	55	80
	850	165	185	210	30	80	110
	900	125	155	185	40	110	140
Courtauld ('230)	300	40	57	68	8	20	30
	330	20	40	49	20	32	45
	360	8	25	37	41	50	63
Cons Union ('338)	300	3	16	27	65	75	85
	280	62	78	90	4	12	17
	300	45	57	70	7	17	24
C & W ('319)	330	22	37	50	17	30	40
	280	63	75	87	4	11	18
	300	47	62	73	8	18	27
GEC ('156)	140	19	28	32	4	8	11
	160	7	15	22	11	17	21
	180	3	9	14	29	32	36
GKN ('261)	240	29	39	46	7	19	24
	260	16	28	37	14	27	33
	280	9	19	29	28	38	44
Grand Met ('408)	360	4	13	22	39	52	55
	380	55	65	78	7	17	23
	390	35	47	60	15	28	33
	420	18	33	47	28	43	48
	460	7	20	33	60	67	72
ICI ('1017)	950	97	122	130	27	60	82
	1000	67	97	135	47	88	105
	1050	42	75	115	75	117	130
	1100	20	60	95	107	148	158
Jaguar ('268)	280	25	39	47	14	30	35
	300	14	28	38	25	40	47
Land Sec ('449)	350	9	22	32	57	59	55
	380	78	82	85	6	13	17
	420	45	65	74	18	24	33
M & S ('180)	160	22	34	38	4	8	11
	180	12	22	28	12	20	22
	200	4	14	18	24	29	29
R-Royce ('109)	100	13	19	24	4	9	14
	110	8	14	19	9	15	19
	120	4	10	15	16	23	24
	130	2	7	11	24	29	33
Sainsbury ('219)	200	25	38	43	6	11	17
	220	13	24	32	14	22	25
	240	5	15	24	28	35	40
Shell ('965)	950	75	105	128	40	60	65
	1000	48	80	105	67	85	100
	1050	27	62	87	98	145	150
Stanley ('245)	220	23	43	50	5	13	17
	240	13	32	38	13	20	25
	260	9	22	29	25	32	35
	280	4	15	24	38	43	45
Trafalgar ('303)	280	32	45	52	9	17	22
	300	20	32	42	20	30	37
	320	9	20	29	45	50	57
TSB ('106)	100	11	14	20	5	7	10
	110	5	11	14	9	13	16
	120	4	8	11	16	20	22
Woolworth ('251)	240	35	45	50	10	20	25
	260	14	35	45	20	35	35
	280	9	25	30	30	40	45
	300	5	17	22	45	60	55

	Series	Calls Dec	Calls Mar	Calls Jun	Puts Dec	Puts Mar	Puts Jun
Amstrad ('111)	100	13	22	28	1	7	12
	110	4	16	23	4	12	15
	120	1	12	18	11	18	20
Barclays ('442)	420	25	55	65	3	28	37
	460	4	35	50	22	47	57
	500	1	20	32	62	72	85
Beecham ('440)	380	64	95	105	½	7	14
	420	34	57	78	1½	14	24
	460	14	33	52	23	33	45
Boots ('227)	220	10	20	30	1	6	10
	240	3	12	20	4	17	22
	260	1½	6	13	16	27	35
BTR ('259)	240	32	42	50	3	10	15
	260	15	25	34	6	19	25
	280	4	13	23	17	28	37
Blue Circ ('312)	280	33	42	50	2	13	17
	300	15	27	37	5	20	28
	320	2	13	23	25	36	48
Dixons ('204)	180	28	38	46	1½	7	12
	200	10	25	35	6	15	22
	220	2	17	25	17	28	32

	Series	Calls Dec	Calls Mar	Calls Jun	Puts Dec	Puts Mar	Puts Jun
De Beers ('1000)	1050	20	–	–	80	–	–
	1100	5	–	–	–	–	–
	1200	3	–	–	–	–	–
Glaxo ('975)	1000	20	90	130	40	95	125
	1050	3	73	105	85	125	145
	1100	2	57	85	125	170	178
	1150	1½	40	73	185	195	205
Hanson ('122)	110	13	17	22	½	6	8
	120	4	12	17	7½	11	14
	130	¼	8	12	9½	17	22
	140	½	5	8	19	22	27
Lonrho ('228)	200	28½	42	50	1½	13	17
	220	11	30	38	¼	22	27
	240	–	20	27	–	38	38
	260	–	14	18	–	48	53
Midland ('368)	330	40	57	65	2	17	25
	360	13	40	50	5	30	40
	390	2	25	35	27	50	57
Sears ('127)	120	10	16	23	1½	7	11
	130	4	11	16	6	14	21
	140	1	8	14	16	21	27
Tesco ('156)	140	18	26	30	1	6	11
	160	–	15	23	–	17	24
	183	½	8	–	29	31	–
Thorn EMI ('514)	480	55	82	105	2	22	30
	500	17	58	82	6	37	52
	550	2	27	55	40	85	75
	600	1½	14	35	90	120	107
THF ('210)	180	30	37	42	2	10	15
	200	13	25	35	3	22	25
	220	2	15	25	15	36	35
Unilever ('460)	420	42	70	80	2	28	32
	460	10	45	60	12	47	55
	500	3	32	44	45	68	80
Wellcome ('359)	330	28	55	65	2½	23	35
	360	8	42	50	15	37	47
	390	2	30	38	40	52	62

	Series	Calls Feb	Calls May	Calls Aug	Puts Feb	Puts May	Puts Aug
BAA ('98)	80	22	26	28	3	7	10
	90	14	19	23	5	10	13
	100	10	15	17	11	16	18
Brit Aero ('315)	280	55	60	67	12	23	30
	300	37	46	55	18	32	40
	330	22	33	40	33	46	53
BAT Ind ('410)	360	43	55	65	20	30	37
	420	23	35	45	52	62	70
	460	13	25	35	82	92	98
Brit Tele ('209)	200	7	17	24	1	5	8
	220	2	9	13	13	19	24
	240	1	4	7	33	37	40
Cadbury ('250)	220	37	42	50	2	6	10
	240	16	25	32	13	20	25
Guinness ('265)	220	48	57	67	2	6	10
	240	25	33	42	5	13	18
	260	10	18	26	26	32	37
Ladbroke ('329)	280	53	60	68	6	13	18
	300	32	42	50	15	25	30
	320	17	25	35	35	45	50
LASMO ('279)	240	42	50	58	3	13	17
	260	25	35	45	13	25	32
	280	12	22	32	32	42	47
Pilkington ('200)	180	25	35	45	3	15	18
	200	10	20	27	13	28	32
	220	3	10	16	33	43	47
Plessey ('145)	120	25	31	37	1	10	14
	140	17	25	31	11	17	21
	160	8	15	22	21	28	32
P & O ('485)	420	90	105	115	8	17	23
	460	58	73	85	28	38	45
	500	35	50	63	48	63	70
Prudential ('788)	750	85	110	125	40	65	80
	800	60	80	100	75	105	115
	850	40	60	80	105	–	–
Racal ('213)	200	22	28	36	13	19	23
	220	13	21	29	33	38	42
	240	11	12	18	38	46	48
RTZ ('345)	280	100	110	120	4	16	18
	300	85	100	110	18	27	30
	320	65	85	95	35	45	50
	340	50	65	80	55	65	70
Vaal Reef ('721)	100	32	38	45	2	7	11
	110	27	33	40	6	12	17
	120	20	24	32	14	20	25
Tr 11¾% 1991 ('£107)	106	1¼	–	–	2⅝	–	–
	108	½	–	–	2¹⁵⁄₁₆	–	–
	110	2⁄₃₂	–	–	3⅝	–	–
	112	1⁄₃₂	–	–	5⅛	–	–
Tr 11¾% 03/07 ('£115)	114	2⅝	3¹³⁄₁₆	–	2²⁷⁄₃₂	7²⁷⁄₃₂	–
	116	1⅝	2¹⁵⁄₁₆	–	4²⁹⁄₃₂	5¹³⁄₁₆	–
	118	1⁹⁄₃₂	2¹⁄₁₆	–	6⅝	6⅝	–
	120	1⁄₃₂	1⅛	–	8	8⅝	–
	122	1⁄₃₂	⅛	–	7⅞	8⅝	–

FT-SE INDEX ('1544)

Series	Calls Dec	Calls Jan	Calls Feb	Calls Mar	Puts Dec	Puts Jan	Puts Feb	Puts Mar
1550	110	145	170	192	12	38	57	73
1600	72	110	140	163	38	67	89	103
1650	43	82	110	138	68	98	122	135
1700	18	60	90	110	70	138	157	170
1750	8	42	73	–	117	148	188	–
1800	5	28	57	–	180	180	185	–
1850	2	17	–	–	210	229	–	–
1900	1	10	–	–	280	285	–	–

December 14, 1987 Total: 18957 Calls 12801 Puts 6156 FT-SE: Calls 365 Puts 374

*Underlying security price.

APPOINTMENTS

Hiram Walker in restructuring of whisky operations

Hiram Walker is setting up a new company to handle its own whisky operations and those of Allied Vintners.

The new company, Allied Distillers, will "harness the international strengths of the brands owned and marketed by Teachers and Ballantine's," Hiram Walker said.

Harrisons & Crosfield: Mr Peter Savage becomes chemicals director designate.

Thomas Cook Group: Mr Bernard Norman has been appointed deputy chairman, Mr Peter Middleton becomes a director and group chief executive, Mr John McEwan has been made a director and Miss Rosemary Berry is named as head of group personnel.

Smith & Wesson: Mr Steve Melvin becomes president, succeeding Mr Bob Muddiman.

Industrial Market Research: Mr David Jamieson has been appointed managing director. Mr Mike Turner and Ms Diana Brown become directors.

EMAP Business Publishing: Mr Gerry Murray becomes chief executive from December 14.

Haiste Group: Mr Ian Elliott has been made a director.

Cakebread Robey: Mr CI Bostock, Mr M Earle and Mr W Smith become non-executive directors.

Hardanger (Southern): Mr Tony Kulp has been appointed managing director.

Mr John Blanche has been made non-executive chairman of the new company. The managing director will be Mr David Jarvis, at present finance director of Harveys of Bristol, who will report to Mr David Beatty, who is the senior executive vice-president of Hiram Walker-Gooderham & Worts and an Allied Vintners director based at Walkerville, Ontario, Canada.

Other executive appointments to the Allied Distillers board include Mr Mark Butterworth, deputy managing director and managing director of George Ballantine & Son, who will be responsible for sales and marketing of Ballantine's and overall sales and marketing strategy of the new company.

Mr Ian Brown has been made finance director, Mr Mike Cowman, director and managing director of Wm Teacher & Sons, will have board responsibility for Stewart & Son of Dundee, Mr Alistair Cunningham will be a director, Mr Derrick Fillingham becomes stocks and overseas director and co-ordinator of personnel matters.

Mr Patrick Gillon will be a director and sales director of George Ballantine & Son, Mr Jim Lawrie, is named as operations director, and Mr Richard Watling becomes director and marketing director for George Ballantine & Son.

The responsibilities of the other senior executives within Teachers, Stewarts and Ballantine's will stay the same, Hiram Walker said.

Mr Michael Jackaman, the company's president and chief executive, said: "Both companies have been highly successful in producing and



Rachel Semlyen: marketing director at Rolawn

marketing brands that have become world famous. Bringing the two close together will ensure that both Teachers and Ballantine's seize an increasing share in a highly competitive market place."

United Rum Merchants and URM Agencies would continue to be developed under Mr Harvey Allen, independent of the new whisky company, Hiram Walker said.

Rolawn: Mrs Rachel Semlyen joins the board as marketing director.

Primesight: Mr Alan Williamson has been made managing director from January 1, succeeding Mr Roger Davidson.

Prestwick Holdings: Mr Douglas McKenzie has been appointed operations director and Mr David Hall a non-executive director.

WORLD MARKETS ROUNDUP: TOKYO

Share prices drift lower on worries over dollar falls

Tokyo (Reuter) – Share prices closed lower in thin trading as market concern over currency fluctuations intensified, with the dollar hitting a record low of Y127.90, brokers said.

"The dollar is the problem," said Mr Martin Petherick, the deputy general manager of SG Warburg in Tokyo.

The Nikkei average shed 109.53 points, or 0.48 per cent, to 22,926.28, after a high of 23,090.81. The index fell 245.03 points on Friday.

Shares in the communications, securities house, airline, insurance, pharmaceutical and bank sectors led the decline.

Export-related stocks were sluggish due to the dollar weakness against the yen, although there was some speculative buying on hopes of a year-end rally, brokers said. Market trends were difficult to distinguish due to the low volume, they added.

Japan Air Lines (JAL) shares fell Y1,300 to close at Y13,900, which means the government's final 48.1 million share stake in JAL will be sold to the public from tomorrow to Thursday at a 3.5 per cent discount from this level – at Y13,400 each.



Charting the slide: a weary dealer in Tokyo yesterday

Brokers said individual investors were wary of the JAL flotation. The November public sale of Nippon Telegraph and Telephone shares had not been perceived as a success, they added.

NTT shares shed Y50,000 to close at Y2.33 million each, well below the government's November offer price of Y2.55 million.

"JAL isn't going to go leaping away like NTT did," a broker said. "Brokerages will support it, but I can't see very much happening."

"People are fairly wary after the NTT sale," a broker involved in underwriting the issues said.

Brokers were optimistic that enough enthusiasm would be generated for a traditional year-end rally. The issue was the intensity and length of the rally.

"It doesn't have to last for three weeks," Mr Petherick said. "It could be for two days."

If the US budget deficit-cutting package is approved by the end of the year, it would provide a boost for market morale, brokers said.

With foreign investors sidelined by the Christmas holidays and no expectation of bad news from abroad, most brokers predicted a relatively quiet market for the next few weeks.

The first section index dropped 11.84 points to 1,845.39, after a 21.98 point fall on Friday.

HONG KONG

Index moves up

Hong Kong (Reuter) – Share prices closed higher in very thin trading yesterday as the local market shrugged off the US dollar's continuing weakness, brokers said.

The Hang Seng index ended 51.04 points higher at 2,040.62, but failed to stay above the key 2,050-point reached earlier.

The broader-based Hong Kong index rose 33.26 points to 1,331.70, but turnover slipped to HK$517.19 million (£37.1 million), the lowest level since May 4, and compared with HK$595.95 million on Friday.

Brokers said the thinness of trading volume meant small transactions could move the index sharply up or down.

Many institutions were keeping to the sidelines while uncertainty over the effect of US pressure to realign the US-Hong Kong dollar link continued to hang over securities

Hang Seng index futures were traded at a discount to the physical index, indicating the unwillingness of investors to take a longer-term view.

FRANKFURT

Buyers sidelined

Frankfurt (Reuter) – West German shares ended easier in thin trading as uncertainty about how much further the dollar had to fall in the near future kept many investors on the sidelines, dealers said.

"There was really nothing happening," one dealer said. "Volumewise, I'd say it was the quietest day so far this year."

But he added that some shares had been boosted by bargain-hunting. Metallgesellschaft, for example, ended at DM257, up DM10.

Dealers said cheaper share prices were making the market resilient to the dollar's weakness. Insurance shares also saw bargain-hunting, with Allianz rising DM15 to DM1,190.

The Commerzbank 60-share index, calculated at midsession, rose marginally to 1,308 from 1,304 on Friday.

The Börsen-Zeitung 30-share index ended at 271.50 after Friday's final 273.53.

Daimler edged up DM1 to DM602, VW was just 10 pfennigs higher at DM222.10

SYDNEY

Solid gains in leading gold-mining companies

Sydney (Reuter) – Share prices closed marginally higher, with demand for quality gold stocks offsetting a lack of interest in industrials.

Many of the leading gold mining stocks made solid gains as bullion reached US$498 (£270.06) an ounce. Sons of Gwalia gained Aus$1.20 to Aus$10.70 (£4.18) and Metana 70 cents to Aus$11.00 while Gold Mines of Kalgoorlie lost 30 cents to Aus$5.10 on profit-taking.

Industrial stocks were quietly traded and mostly easier, with heavy falls in entrepreneurs and food and media stocks dragging the sector index down. One broker suggested investors were surprised by gains on overseas markets on Friday and were awaiting direction.

By the close the All-Ordinaries index was up 2.4 points at 1221.6, while the All-Industrials index was down 9.9 points at 1856.0. The Gold index closed 34.8 points higher at 2155.5 and the All-Resources index added 10.2 points to 731.6.

Turnover was a moderate 126.9 million shares worth Aus$164.9 million.

NEW YORK

Blue chips ahead in early trading

NEW YORK (Reuter) – Wall Street shares were higher in early trading yesterday after a mixed opening, with the blue chips pushing ahead and the general market narrowly higher.

Brokers reported quiet and reserved trading as the holidays come closer. They also related buying to Dr Henry Kaufman's forecast of no recession.

The Dow Jones industrial average of 30 shares was up 15.25 to 1,882.29 at one stage when the transport indicator rose 11.86 to 710.86.

Advancing issues had a moderate lead over declining shares. Trading was slow.

Early active shares included General Electric up ½ at 44⅛, IBM up ⅞ at 111, USX up ¼ at 31¼ and Exxon up ¼ at 39½.

● Singapore – Share prices rebounded strongly over a broad front in quiet trading yesterday, largely influenced by a higher Hong Kong market, brokers said.

Prices opened sharply higher and continued to surge ahead in the afternoon on bargain-hunting and scattered short-covering.

The *Straits Times* industrial index closed 2.4 per cent higher at 741.31 points from Friday's 724.02. "The market ignored lower Tokyo prices and appeared to be in a holiday mood," one broker said.

	Dec 11	Dec 10		Dec 11	Dec 10		Dec 11	Dec 10
AMR Cp	29¼	29¼	Firestone	28⅝	28	Pepsico	30¾	30⅞
ASA	53	52⅝	Fst Chicago	16⅝	16⅝	Pfizer	41½	42½
Aetna Life	44⅛	44⅛	Fst Int Bncp	37⅞	37¾	Phelps Dod	45⅛	43⅞
Allied Signal	26⅝	26½	Fst Penn C	8⅛	8	Philip Mor	89¾	88⅝
Allis Chim	1⅛	1⅛	FT Wachvia	32⅛	32⅝	Philip Pet	10⅝	10½
Alcoa	45⅝	44¾	Ford Motor	73¼	73⅛	Polaroid	21⅞	21¼
Amax Inc	18⅛	18⅝	GAF Cp	45	44⅜	Primerica	22¼	22⅜
AMR Hess	24⅛	23⅞	GTE Cp	35⅝	35	Procr Gble	83½	83¾
Am Brands	42⅛	42⅛	Gen Cp	61⅛	62¼	Pub S E G	22⅝	22⅝
Am Cyanmd	39	38⅛	Gn Dynam	45⅞	46⅛	Raytheon	62¾	61⅞
Am Ele Pwr	25½	25½	Gen Electric	43⅝	42⅞	Rynlds Metl	45⅞	45½
Amexs	21⅛	21⅛	Gen Inst	29¾	29⅝	Rockwell Int	16⅞	16⅛
Am Home	68⅜	68	Gen Mills	45⅝	44⅝	Royal Dutch	105⅝	104
Am Int Grp	55⅛	55⅛	Gen Motors	59⅝	57⅞	SFE Sopac	45	43⅞
Am Stand	34⅝	34⅛	Gen Pub Ut	24⅞	24⅝	Sara Lee	33⅛	33
Am Telph	27⅞	27⅞	Genesco	3⅝	3	Schlumb	29	29¼
Amoco Cp	65⅛	65⅝	Georgia Pac	31⅞	32⅛	Scott Pap	64⅝	65
Amoco Steel	10⅝	10⅛	Gillette	29⅛	29½	Seagram	53⅜	52⅝
Asarco Inc	26⅝	25⅝	Goodrich	32⅜	32⅞	Sears Roeb	31⅞	31⅛
Ashland Oil	55⅛	54⅛	Goodyear	53¼	54⅜	Shell Trans	72¼	70⅞
Atl Richfld	67⅜	67½	Gould Inc	10	10⅛	Singer	51	52
Avon Prod	23⅛	23⅛	Grace Cp	21⅛	43	Smith Beck	45⅝	45⅝
Bk Boston	19⅝	20⅛	Grt Atl Pac	33⅜	34⅜	Sony Cp	38⅛	38⅛
Bank NY	25⅝	25⅞	Greyhnd	24⅛	24	Sth Cal Ed	30⅛	30
Bankamer	7⅝	7⅝	Grumman	19⅛	19⅜	SW Bell	32⅜	32⅜
Bkrs Tst NY	27	27	Gulf & West	68⅛	68⅝	Squibb	56⅜	59⅜
Baxter	21¼	21⅜	Heinz	38⅜	38⅝	Stori Drug	49⅝	49
Beth Steel	16⅛	16⅛	Hercules	42⅝	43⅜	Stevens JP	25⅞	24⅝
Boeing	35⅝	36	Hewlett Pk	52	51⅞	Sun Comp	51⅞	51⅞
Boise Casc	63¼	63⅛	Honeywell	54¼	53⅞	TRW Inc	43⅞	43
Borden	45⅞	47	IC Ind	29	29⅛	Teledyne	293½	294½
Bristol Meyr	41	40⅝	ITT Cp	43⅝	44	Tenneco	41⅞	41½
BP	55⅛	53⅜	INCO	19⅛	18⅝	Texaco	35⅞	31⅞
Brunswick	14⅛	13⅜	Ing Rand Wi	32⅜	31⅞	Tex Eastn	22⅞	22
Burl Ind	n.a	n.a	Inland Steel	28⅝	27	Texas Inst	46	45⅝
Burl Nth	61⅛	61⅛	IBM	110⅛	110⅜	Tex Util	25⅞	25⅞
CBS	147⅛	148	Int Paper	40⅛	39⅝	Textron	19⅞	20
CMS Engy	13⅜	13⅜	Irving Bk	45⅛	45⅛	Travelers	32⅝	32⅝
CPC Int	38⅜	38⅞	Jhsn & Jhsn	75⅝	75⅝	USG	31	31
CSX Cp	26⅝	25⅝	K Mart	27⅛	25⅝	USX Cp	30⅜	30⅜
Campbell Sp	53⅜	54⅜	Kaisertech	9⅝	9⅝	Unilever Plc	34⅜	32⅝
Can Pacific	15⅝	15⅝	Kerr McGee	35	33⅜	Un Carbide	20⅛	20⅛
Caterpillar	58⅛	59	Kimbrly Clrk	49⅝	50	Un Pac Cp	51⅞	51⅞
Centrl SW	28⅜	28⅞	Kraft	48	48⅝	Unisys Cp	30⅛	29⅝
Champion	31⅛	31⅛	Kroger	24	24⅛	Utd Brands	41⅞	41⅞
Chase Man	22¼	22⅜	LTV Cp	2⅜	2⅜	Utd Tech	31⅜	31⅛
Chem NY	24	23⅞	Litton	71	71	Unocal	26⅝	26⅝
Chevron	36⅛	36⅝	Lockheed	34	33⅝	Walter Jim	55⅝	55⅝
Chrysler	21	20⅞	Lucky Str	25	24⅛	Wlsm Lamb	65⅞	66⅜
Citicorp	17⅛	17	Man H'nwr	28⅝	28⅝	Wells Far	39	39⅛
Clark Eq	24¾	24⅝	Manville	2⅛	2⅛	Westg El	45⅛	45⅞
Coca Cola	38⅞	38	Marco	44⅛	45	Weyerhsr	37⅞	38⅝
Colgate	37	37⅞	Marine Mid	83	82⅝	Whirlpool	22⅛	21⅞
Columb Gas	40	40	Mt Marrieta	39	39⅝	Woolworth	31⅛	31⅛
Cmb'tn Eng	26⅛	25⅞	Masco	21⅞	21⅛	Xerox Cp	54⅛	54
Cmwlth Ed	29	29	Mcdonalds	41⅞	42⅝	Zenith	14⅛	13⅝
Cons Edis	42⅛	42⅞	McDonnell	57⅝	56⅝			
Consol Ng	37⅛	35⅞	Mead Cp	30	29¼			
Cont Data	19	18⅞	Merck	157	159			
Corning Gl	48⅞	48	Minnsta Mng	60⅝	59			
Crane	19⅝	18⅝	Mobil	38⅝	36⅝			
Curtiss Wrt	44¼	44⅛	Monsanto	74⅝	74⅝			
Data Genl	20⅞	20⅝	Morgan Jp	31⅝	30⅞			
Deere Co	35⅝	36	Motorola	46⅝	46⅝			
Delta Airl	34⅛	33½	NCR	61⅛	61⅜			
Detroit Edi	13⅜	13⅜	NL Indstrs	5⅝	5⅛			
Digital Eq	120½	122⅝	Nat Distil	64⅛	63⅝			
Disney	54⅜	55⅝	Nat Mid Ent	18⅝	18⅝			
Dow Chem	81⅛	80½	Nat Semi	12⅛	12			
Dresser Ind	23⅜	23⅛	Norfolk Sth	24⅛	23⅜			
Dupont	80⅝	81	NW Bancrp	37	37⅛			
Duke Pwr	43⅞	43⅝	Occid Petl	23⅛	23⅛			
East Kodak	45⅝	46⅛	Ogden Cp	25⅝	25⅞			
Eaton Cp	77¼	77	Olin Cp	37⅞	38⅛			
Emerson El	31	30⅛	PPG Ind	33⅜	32⅜			
Emery Air	5⅛	4⅞	Pac Gas El	16⅛	16⅛			
Exxon	39⅜	39	Pan Am	3⅜	3⅜			
Farah Inc	7	7	Penney JC	42⅞	42⅝			
Fedders	5⅝	5⅝	Pennzoil	79⅛	73			

CANADIAN PRICES

Agnico Eag	25⅛	24⅞
Alcan Alum	33⅛	32⅞
Algoma Stl	13⅞	14
Can Pacific	20⅝	19⅞
Cominco	13⅝	13¼
Con Bathrst	16⅛	16⅛
Hawk S Can	20	20⅛
Hud Bay M	19⅛	18⅞
Imasco	25⅛	24⅝
Imperial Oil	55⅛	54⅜
Int Pipe	42⅝	42⅛
Royl Trstco	13	13
Seagram	69⅞	68½
Shelco 'A'	20	19⅝
Thmsn N 'A'	26⅛	26⅝
Varity Cp	3.00	3.05
WCT	16	16
Weston	31⅛	31⅝

Time to consider unifying High Court

Barclays Bank plc v Bemister and Another
Pryke and Others v Gibbs Hartley Cooper Ltd
Before Sir John Donaldson, Master of the Rolls, Lord Justice Glidewell and Sir Denys Buckley
[Judgment December 11]

The question whether actions should be transferred from one division of the High Court to another in order that they should be brought on more quickly for trial was a problem of general judicial management and not something with which the parties to a particular action should concern themselves.

Accordingly, unless an action had been begun in a division in which according to the rules it should not have been begun, no party should apply for a transfer to another division. However, a party who considered that his claim merited special expedition should apply for an expedited hearing so that in an appropriate case, administrative arrangements could be made.

The Court of Appeal so held granting leave to appeal but dismissing appeals by Barclays Bank plc and John William Pryke and other members of Lloyd's underwriting syndicates from Mr Raymond Kidwell, QC, sitting as a deputy judge of the High Court, and Mr Justice Staughton respectively who had refused their applications to transfer from the Queen's Bench Division to the Chancery Division actions brought by the bank against Walter John Bemister and Edna May Bemister and by Mr Pryke and the other members of Lloyd's against Gibbs Hartley Cooper Ltd.

Mr Richard Salter for Barclays Bank; Mr Michael Supperstone for Mr and Mrs Bemister; Mr Roger Toulson, QC and Mr Mark Cannon for Mr Pryke and the other members of Lloyd's; Mr Jeremy Cooke for Gibbs Hartley Cooper Ltd.

The MASTER OF THE ROLLS said that in the first action Barclays Bank sued Mr and Mrs Bemister on a guarantee given by them to the bank in 1974 in relation to the indebtedness of a company owned by their son. The defence was of undue influence, lack of independent advice and negligence. The claim was for £76,278 plus interest. Mr Bemister was aged 82, his wife 70.

The bank had applied for an order that the action be transferred to the Chancery Division where it was said it could have been heard within not more than six months after setting down, whereas if it had remained in the Queen's Bench Division it was unlikely that a hearing date could have been obtained in less than 18 months after setting down.

That application the judge had refused. The bank had submitted that a speedy trial was essential because much would depend on recollections of meetings between the parties at the time when the guarantee was signed, and because of the age of the defendants.

It was accepted by the defendants that the Chancery Division was neither more nor less appropriate as a forum than the Queen's Bench Division, but they had submitted that the bank had chosen to bring proceedings in the latter division and it should not be able to resile from that subsequently.

In the second action Mr Pryke and the other Lloyd's underwriters sued Lloyd's brokers for a sum in the region of US$1,275,000. The action was begun in June 1986. In March 1987, Mr Justice Hirst had ordered the trial of a preliminary issue which was estimated to last about six weeks.

In June 1987 the parties had been told that the earliest date in the Commercial Court of the Queen's Bench Division was March 30, 1990. The plaintiffs applied for the action to be transferred to the Chancery Division submitting that as the resolution of conflicting versions of events occurring in 1983 and centrally important to their case turned exclusively on oral evidence, there was a need for a speedy trial.

The defendants had submitted that the likely reduction of the delay by 12 months if the action was transferred would not significantly affect the court's ability to determine the issues, and moreover that the action had a distinctively commercial flavour more appropriate for hearing in the Commercial Court.

Mr Justice Staughton had refused the application holding that it was not right to transfer the action solely because of delay in the Commercial Court.

His Lordship said that broadly, delay in hearing actions was determined by the number of actions, their weight and the availability of judges and ancillary resources such as courtrooms. Given the divisional structure of the High Court, creating more or less watertight compartments, it was inevitable that the interplay of those factors would lead to actions in one division coming on more quickly than in others.

At present actions were heard more quickly in the Chancery Division than in the Commercial Court, but that had not always been the case. The *raison d'etre* of the Commercial Court was to supply a speedy and expert service in support of British national and international trade. It had been supremely successful, but was now foundering under the pressure of business generated by its own success.

Unless something were done, market forces, in the shape of customer dissatisfaction might well restore the balance, but that would be a policy of despair contrary to national commercial interest.

His Lordship said that High Court judges were assigned on appointment to one or other of the three divisions. Similarly, family matters apart, some types of action were assigned to specific divisions, although the majority could be set down in either the Queen's Bench or the Chancery Divisions. In practice there was a generally accepted notion of what was appropriate to Queen's Bench or Chancery.

The purpose underlying the creation of divisions and the allocation of work among them was to ensure the resolution of disputes by High Court judges with the relevant expertise. In fact, apart from very specialized actions, all High Court work should be capable of being undertaken by all High Court judges. The system was thus designed to achieve judicial horses for judicial courses.

In recent years it had become apparent that the frontiers of the divisions were much too rigid. Leading members of the Bar, from whom judges were appointed, no longer had practised only in one division. Therefore on appointment they had relevant experience of more than one division. It was therefore in his Lordship's view inefficient that as judges they should be confined to one division.

The existence of divisions in the High Court, once created as an aid to efficiency, was now an obstacle. In that situation consideration would no doubt be given to their abolition, thereby creating a unified High Court, or to their re-definiton.

Consideration would also no doubt be given to centrally coordinated listing throughout the divisions, thus enabling the court not only to allocate judicial horses to judicial courses, but also to take account of any disparity in the weight being carried by some of the judicial horses.

Returning to the present position, his Lordship said that where there was a choice of division it was for the plaintiff to exercise that choice. In doing so he would have regard to how his claim could most speedily and satisfactorily be determined.

But mistakes could be made. It might take the form of beginning an action in a division other than that to which that type of case was assigned. That could and would be remedied by ordering a transfer.

But the decisive factor was not the often inconsistent wishes of the parties, but rather the objective need for speed if justice was not to be denied. That need was not an absolute, but relative to the needs of other actions in the same or other divisions and that was a matter which would be unknown to individual litigants.

In his Lordship's judgment the practical approach was therefore different. If an action had been begun in a division in which, according to the rules, it should not have been begun, either party could and should apply for a transfer to the appropriate division. Subject to that qualification no party should apply for a transfer.

If a party considered that he had a claim for special expedition, he should apply for an expedited hearing. It would then be for the judge hearing that application to consider the need and whether an appropriate degree of expedition could be achieved without transfer.

If, in the judge's view it could not, he should himself make inquiries of the head of another division with a view to ascertaining whether that division could afford the parties a speedier hearing without unduly prejudicing the legitimate needs of parties to actions already the concern of that division.

If the result of those inquiries was that a transfer was appropriate, it would be for the judge of his own motion to direct a transfer with the consent of his own head of division and that of the division to which the case would be transferred.

That approach would not, in his Lordship's view, impede regular consultation between heads of divisions to see whether the disparity in lead times (the time between setting down and hearing) was such that in the general interests of the administration of justice some transfer should be made.

Such consultation was highly desirable and could no doubt be instituted. If the conclusion was that transfers were desirable, his Lordship expected that criteria for selecting actions for transfer would be agreed, and it would be for the judge in charge of the transferor list to identify particular actions to be transferred.

An alternative and simpler course, which was sometimes adopted, was for a judge of one division to sit as an additional judge of another division. However the matter was dealt with, it was a problem of judicial management and not something with which the parties to a particular action should concern themselves.

In the instant cases both judges had held that no exceptional case for expedition had been made out. That was essentially a discretionary decision with which the Court of Appeal should be slow to interfere. He would dismiss the appeals.

The more general problem of ensuring that actions with claims to expedition were heard as quickly in one division as in another, and the particular problem of the Commercial Court, were matters for the consideration of the three heads of the trial divisions and the Lord Chancellor, and not for the Court of Appeal.

Lord Justice Glidewell and Sir Denys Buckley agreed

Solicitors: Durrant Piesse; Glenn Evans & Co, Twyford; Fishburn Boxer & Co; Hewitt Woollacott & Chown.

Disclosing guardian's report on child

Regina v Sunderland Juvenile Court, Ex parte G (a Minor)
Before Lord Justice Slade, Lord Justice Balcombe and Lord Justice Stocker
[Judgment December 11]

The permission of the juvenile court was required before the report of a guardian *ad litem*, appointed in proceedings under section 3(6) of the Child Care Act 1980, could be shown to an "independent" social worker whom a parent wished to call as a witness in the proceedings, and the juvenile court should only authorize disclosure where a positive case was made out that the evidence of such a witness might assist the court in the particular case.

The Court of Appeal so held when dismissing an appeal by a guardian *ad litem* from an order of Mrs Justice Butler-Sloss (*The Times* May 15, 1987) whereby she dismissed an application by the guardian *ad litem* for judicial review to set aside a direction of Sunderland Juvenile Court for disclosure of the guardian *ad litem*'s report to an independent social worker whom the father's solicitor wished to instruct.

Mr Peter Dedman for the guardian *ad litem*; Mr Timothy Hewitt for the father; Mr Ian Kennerley for the local authority; Mr E. James Holman as *amicus curiae*.

LORD JUSTICE BALCOMBE said that four questions arose on the appeal. The first was whether it was permissible for a parent to call an "independent" social worker in proceedings concerning children in the juvenile court, by which his Lordship meant proceedings to which Parts III and IIIA of the Magistrates' Courts (Children and Young Persons) Rules (SI 1970 No 1792), as amended by the Magistrates' Courts (Children and Young Persons) (Amendment) Rules (SI 1984 No 567 (L3)), applied.

If and in so far as the expert evidence of a social worker might help the father to meet any allegations made against him, he had the right to call such evidence. Further, in the absence of any provision prohibiting the calling of such a witness, magistrates in the exercise of their discretion to control their own proceedings might permit the calling of such evidence.

The answer to the first question was that it was permissible for a parent to call an "independent" social worker as a witness. However, if the justices took the view that such a witness could give no relevant evidence, or for other good and proper reasons, in the exercise of their discretion, they might refuse to allow such a witness to be called.

The second question was whether it was necessary to have the permission of the juvenile court to show the report of the guardian *ad litem* to a social worker who was to be called as a witness in the proceedings.

It was to be noted that nowhere in the 1970 Rules, as amended, or in the 1980 Act was it expressly stated that the guardian *ad litem*'s report was confidential. However, the manner in which rules 20(1)(a) and 21D(1) were expressed was significant.

Rule 21D(1) stated that the report "may be received and considered by the court without being read aloud; and copies of the report shall in any case be given to the parties or to their legal representatives . . .". Those provisions stressed the confidentiality of the report.

His Lordship did not read the last provision as being merely administrative, empowering the court to give a copy of the report to either the parties or their legal representatives; in his Lordship's judgment it was designed to give them a right to receive the report which they might otherwise not have.

There were a number of matters supporting the conclusion that the contents of the guardian *ad litem*'s report were confidential and might not be disclosed to anyone other than the parties to the proceedings and their legal advisers without the leave of the court.

The third question was whether the juvenile court had power to authorize disclosure of the guardian *ad litem*'s report to a social worker who was to be called as a witness.

Magistrates had an inherent power to control their own courts, and, unless, therefore, there was something in the rules which precluded their authorizing disclosure, they were able to do so in exercise of that power.

It was submitted that the express provision that copies of the guardian *ad litem*'s report should be provided to certain specified persons implicitly precluded its being shown to anyone else. There was no justification for construing the rules in so restrictive a manner. Accordingly, the juvenile court did have power to authorize the disclosure.

The fourth question concerned the principles which the juvenile court should apply in exercising its power to permit disclosure. It was highly desirable that there should be uniformity of practice among all courts exercising jurisdiction in cases concerning children.

It was apparent from, *inter alia*, *Practice Direction (Minor: Independent Reporter)* ([1983] 1 WLR 416) that the higher courts did not in general favour the calling of "independent" social workers to give evidence in cases concerning children. There were good reasons for that.

It was of the utmost importance that cases concerning children were dealt with as quickly as possible.

The "independent" social worker would often wish to see the child, but it was rarely that it would be in the interests of the child to subject him or her to a number of interviews or meetings with different persons. If the "independent" social worker was not to see the child, his or her evidence might be of little or no help to the court.

In general, the more widely that confidential material was permitted to be circulated, the more likely it was that confidences might be breached.

At the end of the day, the question was one of approach. If a juvenile court was asked to authorize the disclosure of the guardian *ad litem*'s report to a social worker who might be called as a witness on behalf of a parent, should it authorize disclosure unless there were good reasons to the contrary, or should it refuse disclosure unless a positive case was made out to show that the evidence of such a social worker might assist the court in the particular case?

In his Lordship's judgment, the latter was undoubtedly the correct approach.

Looked at in that light, it was clear, on the evidence, that in the present case the court adopted the wrong approach. They were only concerned with fairness to the father. Although that was, of course, a relevant consideration, it should not have been, as it was, the only consideration.

Accordingly, they left out of account matters which they should have considered and that was always a ground which entitled a court reviewing the exercise of the discretion to interfere.

However, the grant of relief by way of judicial review was itself discretionary and it did not appear that any useful purpose would now be served by granting the relief sought. The relief actually claimed was academic, the report having in fact been disclosed to a social worker instructed on behalf of the father after the justices granted the application, and no advantage would accrue to the guardian *ad litem* by granting her a declaration in lieu of the relief claimed.

Lord Justice Stocker and Lord Justice Slade agreed.

Solicitors: Patterson Glenton & Stracey, Jarrow; Hindle, Halliday & Clive M. Campbell, North Shields; Mr Colin G. Langley, Sunderland; Official Solicitor.

Prostitution is a taxable trade

Inland Revenue Commissioners v Aken

The Inland Revenue were entitled to assess income tax on a prostitute's earnings since prostitution was a "trade" within Case I of Schedule D to the Income and Corporation Taxes Act 1970, Mr Piers Ashworth, QC, held on December 7, sitting as a deputy High Court judge of the Queen's Bench Division.

HIS LORDSHIP said that the defendant was a prostitute who went under the name of Lindi St Claire. She had a substantial income. Following her appearance on a television programme a tax assessment was made on her for a seven-year period from 1973 and a sum was agreed.

The defendant had argued that the Inland Revenue had acted *ultra vires* because the profits of prostitution were not taxable.

His Lordship said that taxes were raised under Case I of Schedule D in respect of profits from trade and the commissioners would only have acted *ultra vires* if prostitution did not come within the meaning of "trade".

It was said that prostitution did not because it was illegal for a prostitute to do many of the things which normally came within the definition of trade. But was clear from decided cases that the courts had repeatedly rejected the argument that trade was not trade because it was illegal. The word "trade" did not have any connotations of legality. Judgment would be entered for £58,751 in favour of the commissioners.

Water occupiers

Cakebread v Severn Trent Water Authority

The phrase "statutory water undertakers" referred to in section 31(1) and (3) of the General Rate Act 1967 was to be defined pursuant to sections 11(6) and 38(1) of the Water Act 1973.

Accordingly hereditaments occupied by the Severn Trent Water Authority, comprising a fishing lodge and parking areas around the perimeter of a reservoir, were occupied for the purposes of a statutory water undertaking within the meaning of the 1967 Act and fell to be valued in accordance with Schedule 4 to that Act.

The Court of Appeal (Lord Justice Slade, Lord Justice Balcombe and Lord Justice Stocker) so held on December 4 allowing an appeal by Severn Trent Water Authority from the Lands Tribunal which he had allowed an appeal by the valuation officer from the Warwickshire local valuation court relating to hereditaments around the perimeter of Draycote Water near Rugby.

Correction

In *R v Park* (*The Times* December 14) the headline should have read: "Prior agreement only is fatal to handling".

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Hi Yield	84.5	88.3	+0.4	5.51
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Int Growth Inc	78.0	83.1	+0.3	0.24
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N Amer Gth Inc	99.8	106.7	+0.1	2.82
Preference Inc	123.2	130.6p	+0.3	9.61
Smll Co Gr Inc	79.6	84.3	-0.5	4.53
Smll Co Gth	241.7	256.1p	+0.8	1.16
Spec Sits Inc	113.8	120.6p	+1.7	1.58
UK Growth	331.4	351.1p	+2.2	3.65

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Balanced	367.5	389.5p	+1.3	3.89
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World Ass Vld	21.9	23.4	..	2.05
Japan	119.4	127.2p	-0.7	0.01
Spc of Amer	165.7	174.3p	-0.1	1.64
Asset Value	260.2	275.8p	+2.9	3.72
O'seas Earn	183.8	194.9p	+1.1	3.84
Recovery	97.5	103.4	+1.1	3.62
UK Spec Sit	217.6	230.7	-1.0	2.98
Smlr Co	149.1	158.0	+1.6	2.25
Capital	220.5	233.7	+0.2	3.32
Amer Spec Sit	48.2	51.1	+0.1	2.07
International	91.8	97.1	-0.3	1.55
Growth & Inc	136.0	144.2	+0.4	3.68
Euro Gth	15.8	17.9	-0.1	2.63
Pacific	178.7	100.9p	..	0.52
2nd Smlr Co	186.5	200.9	+2.3	2.17

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High Income	47.8	50.9p	+0.3	6.04
International	72.3	77.0	+0.1	4.91
Income Growth	91.7	97.6	+0.6	4.39
Gilt/Fixed Int	22.3	23.8	+0.1	10.15
Global Inc	30.8	32.8	..	5.96
Spec Sit	52.8	56.0	+0.6	1.50

BANCLAYS UNICORN
Unicorn House, 252, Romford Rd E7
01-534 5544

Capital	70.2	74.8	+0.3	3.44
Euro Gth Inc	54.5	58.4	+0.2	2.14
Extra Income	84.5	89.8	+0.5	5.35
General	146.8	156.9	+1.1	3.81
Gilt & Fixed Inc	92.9	98.5p	-0.4	9.80
Inc Acc	162.3	173.5	+12.0	1.29
Inn Income	45.3	48.1p	-0.2	5.52
Smlr Co Inc	33.2	35.3	+0.1	1.53

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Europe	102.5	109.1p	-0.5	0.10
Exempt Tst	50.9	54.1	..	4.90
Growth & Inc	66.5	70.7	+0.3	2.89
Global Gth	92.3	98.5p	..	1.00
Japan Spec	116.8	127.0	+0.3	0.10
Japan Sm	123.7	132.2	+0.4	0.00
First Europe	91.5	97.3	-0.3	0.10
First Japan	71.4	76.0	+0.2	0.00
First N Amer	33.2	35.3	-0.1	1.10
First Smlr Co	70.8	75.3	+0.1	1.50
N Amer Spec	32.7	34.7	+0.1	0.30
UK Growth	53.7	57.2	+0.2	4.56

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Do Inc	154.0	164.4	+0.8	1.40
High Income	69.6	76.8	+0.6	5.12
Income	81.8	88.9	+2.1	5.05
Man Portf Inc	72.0	77.2	+0.5	2.77
Do Acc	122.0	132.6	+3.5	2.17
Nth American	39.8	43.2c	+0.3	0.21
Orient	74.7	82.3p	+0.4	0.18
Exempt	222.5	241.8p	+0.9	0.00
Recovery	51.3	55.8p	+0.8	0.28
German	22.2	24.1c	..	1.49
Int Recov	28.9	22.7	+0.4	1.00
Europe	15.3	16.6	+0.1	2.07

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Do Acc 3	203.4	213.9	..	5.50
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Do Acc 2	117.3	123.2	..	1.97
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N American	33.2	35.8	..	1.00

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Do Acc	132.5	140.2c	+0.4	4.56
Eurotrust Inc	46.6	49.3	..	0.68
Do Acc	46.6	49.3	..	0.68
Extra Inc Inc	205.7	217.6	+1.1	4.76
Do Acc	229.0	242.3	+1.2	4.76
Financial Acc	38.9	41.2	+0.2	0.65
Do Inc	37.5	37.5p	+0.2	0.65
Income Tst	133.6	141.3p	+1.2	4.50
Do Acc	147.2	155.7p	+1.5	4.50
Int Growth Inc	114.7	121.3	+0.4	..
Do Acc	127.4	134.8	+0.4	..
Japan/Gen Inc	94.2	99.0	+0.5	..
Do Acc	95.5	101.0	+0.5	..
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Do Acc	44.7	47.5	+0.1	1.05
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Do Acc	144.7	153.9p	-0.8	10.19
Int Gth Dist	46.4	49.3	-0.2	1.52
Do Acc	46.4	49.3	-0.2	1.52
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Do Acc	48.4	51.3	+0.3	3.80
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Do Acc	44.2	46.9	+0.4	2.13

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Per East Acc	94.9	101.2	+0.4	0.76
European Acc	51.5	55.1	+0.3	0.00
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Gt/Fxd Interst	51.9	55.3	-0.4	7.88
Tst Of Inv Trst	70.2	74.7	+0.5	1.99
Smlr Co's Tst	70.8	75.3	+0.1	1.50
Nth Amer Tst	34.2	47.1	+0.2	1.89
Far East Tst	84.5	89.9	+0.4	0.44
Int Growth	43.6	46.4	+0.4	1.72
European Tst	35.9	38.2	+0.3	1.15

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Do Inc	220.2	235.5	+0.4	4.97
Gilt/Fixed Acc	108.0	113.6	-0.8	8.93
Do Inc	94.3	99.2	-0.7	8.93
N Amer Acc	93.2	99.6	+0.7	0.36
Far East Acc	173.2	185.2	-0.7	0.07
Euro Tst Acc	108.7	116.2	-1.2	1.33
Gen Tst Acc	229.3	245.8	+0.6	3.98
Brit Excel	36.6	39.0	..	3.34

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US Smlr Co	42.2	45.0	-0.3	0.16
UK Inc Fd	83.2	88.6	+0.9	4.64
Far East Fd	69.0	73.5	+0.3	0.81
Overseas Inc	53.5	57.0p	+0.1	4.51
Fxd Interest	57.0	60.7p	+0.3	9.77
Natural Res Fd	56.7	60.4	+1.0	2.77
European Fd	61.7	65.8	-0.3	0.55
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Int Tech Fd	87.3	92.9	+0.3	0.14

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Do Inc	49.6	52.8	+0.1	0.40
Hi Yield Acc	23.5	25.0	..	..
Do Inc	23.5	25.0	-0.1	5.10
Inc Gth Acc	49.6	53.0p	+0.1	..
Do Inc	44.3	47.1p	..	4.00
Smlr Co Acc	44.7	39.2p	+0.3	..
Do Inc	53.6	57.0p	+0.3	0.30
Euro Acc	17.7	18.8	..	..
Do Inc	17.7	18.8	..	1.00
Euro Gth Acc	13.3	14.1	+0.2	1.00
Do Inc	13.3	14.1	+0.2	1.00

FIDELITY INVESTMENT SERVICES LTD
River Walk, Tonbridge, TN9 1DY
01-828 0600 414161

American Acc	87.3	93.9p	-0.4	1.31
Amer Extry Inc	24.4	26.1p	-0.2	0.44
Amer Spec Sit	32.5	34.8	+0.2	0.27
Australia	19.0	20.3	..	2.18
European	42.8	45.7	-0.7	..
European Inc	19.2	20.5	-0.1	4.98
Global Conv	20.6	22.0c	..	5.73
Far East Inc	33.6	35.9p	..	4.18
Gt/Fxd Interest	29.7	31.8	+0.2	9.67
Growth & Inc	97.2	104.0p	+1.7	4.51
Japan Spec Sit	55.4	60.4	+0.4	..
Japan	139.2	148.5	-0.9	..
Main Interest	105.9	112.7	+0.6	0.78
Major Inc Exty	95.1	101.7p	+0.7	5.33
Pension Name	39.2	38.8	+1.3	2.53
SE Asia	28.8	27.5	..	0.72
Spec Sit	209.6	224.2	+2.5	0.93
Eastern Opps	18.7	19.9	..	..

FRANKLINGTON UNIT MANAGEMENT
3, London Wall Bldgs, London Wall, London EC2M 5NQ
01-638 5181

Amer/Gen Inc	127.2	134.6	+1.1	..
Do Acc	128.9	137.4	+0.9	..
Amer Tomn Inc	136.8	143.7	+1.0	1.09
Do Acc	140.8	149.9	+0.8	1.09
Capital Inc	238.1	248.7	+2.0	2.37
Do Acc	238.6	306.8	+2.4	2.37
Conv/Gilt Inc	96.5	102.1c	+0.4	4.56
Do Acc	132.5	140.2c	+0.4	4.56
Eurotrust Inc	46.6	49.3	..	0.68
Do Acc	46.6	49.3	..	0.68
Extra Inc Inc	205.7	217.6	+1.1	4.76
Do Acc	229.0	242.3	+1.2	4.76
Financial Acc	38.9	41.2	+0.2	0.65
Do Inc	37.5	37.5p	+0.2	0.65
Income Tst	133.6	141.3p	+1.2	4.50
Do Acc	147.2	155.7p	+1.5	4.50
Int Growth Inc	114.7	121.3	+0.4	..
Do Acc	127.4	134.8	+0.4	..
Japan/Gen Inc	94.2	99.0	+0.5	..
Do Acc	95.5	101.0	+0.5	..
Monthly Inc Fd	105.6	111.7p	+1.1	4.23
PEP 87	50.6	53.5	+0.4	2.57
Recovery	149.1	157.7	+1.2	1.45
Do Acc	153.1	162.0	+1.6	1.46
Smaller Inc	46.7	49.4	+0.1	2.02
Do Acc	48.7	49.4	+0.1	2.02

FRIENDS PROVIDENT MANAGERS
Castle Street, Salisbury, Wilts SP1 3SH
(0722) 412411 Admin0272 611622

Equity Dist	203.5	216.4p	+3.1	2.88
Do Acc	350.8	372.3p	+5.3	2.88
Euro Gth Dist	44.7	47.5	+0.1	1.05
Do Acc	44.7	47.5	+0.1	1.05
Fxd Interest Di	114.4	121.7p	-0.6	10.19
Do Acc	144.7	153.9p	-0.8	10.19
Int Gth Dist	46.4	49.3	-0.2	1.52
Do Acc	46.4	49.3	-0.2	1.52
North Amer Dist	95.3	101.3	+0.7	2.50
Do Acc	97.5	103.5	+0.7	2.50
Pac Basin Dist	146.1	157.3	-0.8	0.24
Do Acc	148.3	157.5	-0.8	0.24
Shared Dist	204.2	217.0p	+1.5	1.36
Do Acc	214.0	227.1p	+1.5	1.36
Steward Inc Di	48.4	51.3	+0.3	3.80
Do Acc	48.4	51.3	+0.3	3.80
UT Inst Shed Di	44.2	46.9	+0.4	2.13
Do Acc	44.2	46.9	+0.4	2.13

GT UNIT MANAGERS
8th Floor, 8, Devonshire Sq, London EC2M
2PX
01-283 2575 Dealing: 01-626 5431

Amer Spec Sit	45.5	48.6	+0.7	0.80
UK Cap Inc	169.2	181.0	+1.5	2.81
Do Acc	159.5	169.8	+2.0	2.80
Income Fd	88.4	94.1	+0.5	5.70
International	127.8	136.0	+0.3	0.50
US & Gen	239.6	254.9	-0.1	0.10
Far East Gen	197.5	114.4p	-0.2	0.29
European Fd	188.0	201.1	-1.4	0.10
Germany Fd	49.5	52.7	-0.4	1.50
Int Inc Fd	43.7	46.5p	..	6.00
Wld Spec Sit	50.0	53.2	+0.7	1.80

GARTMORE FUND MANAGERS
Gartmore House, 16-18 Monument St, London EC3R 8AJ
01-626 1212 Dealing: 01-236 3585 Investor Services: 0800 289820

American	58.6	62.2	-0.7	0.70
Australian	53.4	56.8	+0.2	2.12
British Acc	53.4	56.8	+0.2	2.12
Do Dist	54.2	58.3	+0.2	2.12
Chalt UK Gth	22.5	24.0	..	1.82
Compnd Shares	37.9	40.3	+0.1	1.70
Emerging	39.9	42.9	+0.6	0.75
Extra Income	54.6	58.0p	+0.6	4.78
Far East Tst	104.1	111.9	+0.9	0.30
Fxd Interest	27.4	29.0	..	9.77
Frontier Mkts	19.7	21.1	-0.1	0.30
Global Fd	142.6	153.4p	+0.3	0.40
Do Dist	134.8	145.0p	+0.3	0.40
Gold Shares	51.9	55.3	+0.4	0.65
Hedged Amer	27.5	29.3p	+0.8	0.50
High Income	27.9	30.0s	+0.5	5.67
Hong Kong	24.4	26.2	-0.4	0.90
Income Fd	85.4	91.8	+2.1	5.77
Int'l Pfd Interst	23.4	24.8c	-0.4	9.17
Japan Tst	114.4	123.0	+0.4	0.00
Man Expt	237.1	247.0	+4.1	2.56
Oil & Energy	38.8	41.8	+0.4	2.62
Spec Sit	92.6	97.8	+0.2	0.30
UK Sm Co Rec	85.8	92.0	+0.2	0.30
Gartmore (Ireland) Ltd				
Global Gth	69.8	75.5	..	3.44
Opportunities	33.8	36.5	..	7.26
Pacific Gth	41.1	44.1p	..	1.99
Pract Inv Inc	57.8	62.1	..	3.11
Pract Inv Acc	57.8	62.1	..	3.11
Wrlwide Recov	76.5	82.3p	..	1.94

GOVETT (JOHN) UNIT MANAGEMENT
Shedfield House, 4, Basile Bridge Lane, London SE1 2HR
01-378 7979 Dealing: 01-588 0626

Int Gth	78.7	84.5	+0.7	1.24
American Gth	47.3	50.5	+2.6	1.71
American Inc	50.0	53.4	+0.3	4.19
European Gth	42.5	45.4s	-0.4	1.31
Gold & Mnrls	61.7	65.9	-0.5	0.55
Japan Gth	92.7	99.3s	+0.2	..
Pacific Inc	57.5	61.4	+0.3	4.93
Pacific Gth	53.4	56.7	+0.1	0.42
UK Prop Inc	82.4	88.0p	+0.2	6.07
UK Spec Opps	115.7	123.5	+1.4	0.94
UK Co Tst	211.0	221.6	..	..
Gt British	32.5	34.7	+0.2	1.70

GRE UNIT MANAGERS
Royal Exchange, EC3P 3DN
01-588 5963

Gilt/Fxd Interest	118.9	123.6	..	8.98
Gth Equity	202.4	214.2p	..	2.56
Guardhill	232.4	247.0	..	2.12
N American	108.4	112.8	..	0.99
Pacific	210.4	222.7	..	0.00
Prop Shares	287.7	304.5	..	1.31
Smaller Co	253.7	267.4	..	1.48
European Tst	192.9	204.2p	..	1.83

GUINNESS MAHON UNIT TRUST MANAGERS
PO Box 902, 32 St Mary-at-Hill, London EC3P 3AJ
01-623 9333

Global Gth	31.9	34.0	..	0.00
High Income	74.7	79.6	+0.4	6.86
Pacific Gth	69.8	73.6	-0.3	0.99
Recovery	248.5	264.5	+0.4	2.96
St Vincent Inc	94.3	99.8	+0.5	5.41
St Vinc US Gth	46.4	49.3	+0.1	1.22
Temp & Sm Co	262.4	279.3	..	2.75
Euro Gth Tst	36.2	38.4	..	0.80

HAMBROS BANK UNIT TRUST MANAGERS
Admins 5, Rayleigh Rd, Hutton, Brentwood, Essex
Enquiries: 0277 227300 Dealing: 0277 261010

Amer Extry Inc	45.6	48.4	-0.2	4.73
Canadian Tst	34.8	36.9p	+0.1	0.96
Equity Income	71.4	75.8	+0.2	4.91
European Tst	71.0	75.3	-0.3	1.22
High Income	76.2	80.8	+0.2	5.78
Int Sec Tst	42.8	45.4	..	1.98
Japan Extry	92.4	100.5	+0.3	0.00
Nth Amer Tst	45.9	48.6p	..	0.00
Recn & Assst	36.2	38.5	-0.3	2.08
Scandinavian	68.4	67.3	-0.8	1.14
Smlr Co	30.7	32.6s	+0.2	1.58
UK Mnor Gen	34.5	36.6	+0.2	1.23

HENDERSON
Premier UT Administration Admin 5, Rayleigh Rd, Hutton, Brentwood, Essex, CM13 1BS
0277 261010

Amer Recovery	66.9	71.3p	-0.9	0.00

STOCK EXCHANGE PRICES

Equities mark time

ACCOUNT DAYS: Dealings began December 7. Dealings end December 18. §Contango day December 21. Settlement day January 4. §Forward bargains are permitted on two previous business days.

Prices recorded are at market close. Changes are calculated on the previous day's close. Where one price is quoted, it is a middle price. Changes, yields and price earnings ratios are based on middle prices. (as) denotes Alpha Stocks. (VOLUMES PAGE 24.)

Portfolio Gold

From your portfolio card check your eight share price movements, on this page only. Add them up to give you your overall total and check this against the daily dividend figure. If it matches, you have won outright or a share of the total daily prize money stated. If you are a winner follow the claim procedure on the back of your card. You must always have your card available when claiming. Game rules appear on the back of your card.

No.	Company	Group	Gain or loss
1	Logica	Electricals	
2	Berkeley Gp	Building,Roads	
3	Smurfit (Jeff)	Paper,Print,Adv	
4	Medminster	Leisure	
5	Rugby Group	Building,Roads	
6	General Motor	Motors,Aircraft	
7	Grand Met (as)	Hotels,Caterers	
8	Bryson	Oils,Gas	
9	Parkfield	Industrials L-R	
10	Colorall Gp	Industrials A-D	
11	Tomkinsons	Textiles	
12	Broken Hill	Industrials A-D	
13	Halstead (James)	Chemicals,Plas	
14	Beazer (CH) (as)	Industrials A-D	
15	Crowther (J)	Textiles	
16	BAT (as)	Tobaccos	
17	Argyll (as)	Foods	
18	Volex	Electricals	
19	Fitzwilton	Industrials S-K	
20	West Trust	Textiles	
21	Lovell (Y.J)	Building,Roads	
22	Church Charles	Building,Roads	
23	Wilson (Connolly)	Building,Roads	
24	Egerton Trust	Property	
25	Alexandra Wwear	Industrials A-D	
26	Vibroplant	Building,Roads	
27	Bramalea	Paper,Print,Adv	
28	Misys	Electricals	
29	Microfilm Repro	Electricals	
30	Tate & Lyle (as)	Foods	
31	Brown & Tawse	Industrials A-D	
32	Wolverhmptn & D	Breweries	
33	Dobson Park	Industrials A-D	
34	Arlington Secs	Property	
35	Brent Walker	Leisure	
36	Rank Org (as)	Industrials L-R	
37	French (Thomas)	Industrials S-K	
38	Bunzl (CD)	Motors,Aircraft	
39	STC (as)	Electricals	
40	Aaronson	Industrials A-D	
41	Pilkington (as)	Industrials L-R	
42	Laing Prop	Property	
43	Guinness (as)	Breweries	
44	Gussids (as)	Industrials S-K	

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MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT	Weekly Total

Portfolio Gold

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BRITISH FUNDS

1987 High Low Stock — Price — Chge — Int. yield % — Gross Red. yield %

SHORTS (Under Five Years)

98⅜ 95⅝ Treas 7¾% 1985-88 — 97⅝ — … — 7.8 — 8.319
102⅛ 94⅜ Exch 10½% 1988 — 100⅝ — … — 10.4 — 8.445
101⅛ 98 Treas 12¾% 1988 — 100⅛ — … — 8.7 — 8.488
98 92⅝ Treas 9¾% 1987-88 — 97⅜ — … — 9.1 — 7.966
101¼ 96⅞ Treas 9¾% 1988 — 100⅝ — … — 9.5 — 8.715
105⅛ 95⅞ Treas 11¾% 1988 — 103⅝ — … — 11.2 — 8.836
104⅜ 97⅛ Treas 10¾% 1988 — 102⅝ — … — 10.3 — 8.815
103⅜ 98⅛ Exch 10% 1988 — 102⅛ — … — 10.5 — 8.557
103⅜ 98⅛ Exch 10¼% 1988 — 102⅛ — … — 10.5 — 8.557
101⅜ 95⅛ Exch 11¾% 1988 — 102⅛ — … — 10.7 — 8.362
99⅝ 94⅝ Treas 9¾% 1988 — 97⅝ — … — 9.1 — 8.362
106⅛ 98⅝ Treas 12¾% 1989 — 103⅝ — … — 10.9 — 8.362
104⅛ 97⅝ Treas 11¾% 1989 — 101⅛ — … — 10.8 — 8.362
103⅛ 96⅝ Treas 11¾% 1989 — 100⅛ — … — 10.8 — 8.362
101⅛ 94⅝ Treas 11¾% 1989 — 98⅛ — … — 10.8 — 8.362
99⅝ 93⅝ Treas 11¾% 1989 — 96⅝ — … — 10.8 — 8.362
97⅝ 91⅝ Treas 11¾% 1989 — 94⅝ — … — 10.8 — 8.362
95⅝ 89⅝ Treas 11¾% 1989 — 92⅝ — … — 10.8 — 8.362
93⅝ 87⅝ Treas 11¾% 1989 — 90⅝ — … — 10.8 — 8.362
91⅝ 85⅝ Treas 11¾% 1989 — 88⅝ — … — 10.8 — 8.362
89⅝ 83⅝ Treas 11¾% 1989 — 86⅝ — … — 10.8 — 8.362
87⅝ 81⅝ Treas 11¾% 1989 — 84⅝ — … — 10.8 — 8.362
85⅝ 79⅝ Treas 11¾% 1989 — 82⅝ — … — 10.8 — 8.362
83⅝ 77⅝ Treas 11¾% 1989 — 80⅝ — … — 10.8 — 8.362
81⅝ 75⅝ Treas 11¾% 1989 — 78⅝ — … — 10.8 — 8.362
79⅝ 73⅝ Treas 11¾% 1989 — 76⅝ — … — 10.8 — 8.362
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73⅝ 67⅝ Treas 11¾% 1989 — 70⅝ — … — 10.8 — 8.362
71⅝ 65⅝ Treas 11¾% 1989 — 68⅝ — … — 10.8 — 8.362
69⅝ 63⅝ Treas 11¾% 1989 — 66⅝ — … — 10.8 — 8.362
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53⅝ 47⅝ Treas 11¾% 1989 — 50⅝ — … — 10.8 — 8.362
51⅝ 45⅝ Treas 11¾% 1989 — 48⅝ — … — 10.8 — 8.362
49⅝ 43⅝ Treas 11¾% 1989 — 46⅝ — … — 10.8 — 8.362
47⅝ 41⅝ Treas 11¾% 1989 — 44⅝ — … — 10.8 — 8.362
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43⅝ 37⅝ Treas 11¾% 1989 — 40⅝ — … — 10.8 — 8.362
41⅝ 35⅝ Treas 11¾% 1989 — 38⅝ — … — 10.8 — 8.362
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15⅝ 9⅝ Treas 11¾% 1989 — 12⅝ — … — 10.8 — 8.362
13⅝ 7⅝ Treas 11¾% 1989 — 10⅝ — … — 10.8 — 8.362
11⅝ 5⅝ Treas 11¾% 1989 — 8⅝ — … — 10.8 — 8.362
9⅝ 3⅝ Treas 11¾% 1989 — 6⅝ — … — 10.8 — 8.362
7⅝ 1⅝ Treas 11¾% 1989 — 4⅝ — … — 10.8 — 8.362
5⅝ 1⅛ Treas 11¾% 1989 — 3⅛ — … — 10.8 — 8.362
3⅝ 1⅛ Treas 11¾% 1989 — 2⅛ — … — 10.8 — 8.362
1⅝ 1⅛ Treas 11¾% 1989 — 1⅛ — … — 10.8 — 8.362

FIVE TO FIFTEEN YEARS

116⅛ 107 Treas 12¾% 1992 — 115⅝ — … — 11.1 — 8.354
108⅛ 99⅝ Treas 10¾% 1992 — 107⅝ — … — 10.0 — 8.354
109⅛ 99⅝ Treas C10¾% 1992 — 107⅝ — … — 10.0 — 8.354
117 109⅛ Exch 12¾% 1992 — 115⅝ — … — 11.1 — 8.354
121 104⅝ Treas 13¾% 1992 — 119⅝ — … — 11.5 — 8.354
111½ 103⅞ Treas 12¾% 1992 — 111⅝ — … — 11.4 — 8.354
107⅜ 98⅝ Treas 11¾% 1992 — 105⅝ — … — 11.1 — 8.354
94⅝ 75⅝ Exch 8% 1992-95 — 85⅝ — … — 9.4 — 8.354
109⅝ 97⅝ Exch 10¾% 1992 — 107⅝ — … — 10.0 — 8.354
108⅝ 98⅝ Treas 12¾% 1992 — 107⅝ — … — 11.9 — 8.354
109⅝ 98⅝ Treas 12¾% 1992 — 107⅝ — … — 11.9 — 8.354
124⅝ 109⅝ Exch 13¾% 1992 — 122⅝ — … — 11.2 — 8.354
111⅛ 98⅝ Exch 10¾% 1992 — 109⅝ — … — 10.0 — 8.354
119⅝ 108⅝ Exch 12¾% 1992 — 117⅝ — … — 10.9 — 8.354
122⅝ 111⅝ Exch 13¾% 1992 — 120⅝ — … — 11.2

Edited by Matthew May

COMPUTER HORIZONS/1

Records are tipped for PCs

THE WEEK

From David Sanger in California

Despite the stock-market plunge and fears of a recession, American personal computer makers are predicting near-record growth next year, buoyed by demand for a more-powerful generation of machines. The predictions, which appear to run counter to forecasts for the motor-car industry and a range of capital-equipment makers, was made at a computer conference in Silicon Valley last week.

Though estimates varied, companies ranging from Apple to Compaq said they expected industry growth of 20 to 30 per cent next year. Separately, Motorola, one of the world's largest makers of semiconductors, confirmed rumours that it is developing a new family of microprocessors.

The new processors, based on a high-speed technology called reduced-instruction-set computing, or RISC, would be an alternative to the 68000 line that powers Apple's Macintosh computers and other key personal computers and work stations. The most specific estimates of personal computer sales next year came from Compaq, the Houston-based maker of IBM-compatible machines that has become the No2 supplier of office personal computers.

Rod Canion, Compaq's chief executive, said: "The number we are expecting next year is in the 20 to 30 per cent range. We plan to outperform the industry slightly." Compaq's sales this year have nearly doubled, and analysts are expecting the company's revenues this year to top $1.1 billion (about £600 million).

On Monday, John Sculley, Apple's chairman, said he was "quite optimistic" about next year, as computer buyers move to "much higher-value systems."

"There are a lot of aging PCs out there waiting to be replaced," said Mr Sculley, who also disclosed that Apple was "completely rewriting" the operating system used on its Macintosh machines. But he suggested that the operating system would not be completed for several years.

Some industry analysts are far more pessimistic about next year's outlook, saying that, in a recession, corporate computer users would simply delay conversion to a more capable generation of computers.

Richard Shaffer, editor of *Technologic Computer Letter*, which sponsored the conference, said: "There is a real danger that too many companies will make too many personal computers next year. Every PC president says his company will grow faster than the industry."

Whether companies are willing to make the transition is a key question for IBM which is spending millions to convince customers to switch to a new generation of personal computers, called the PS-2.

IBM has ceased manufacturing its older line of computers, meaning that if companies delay the conversion to the new family, and the new software and peripheral equipment that runs on it, the business could go to makers of the less expensive older technology that are holding back on following IBM's lead.

The outlook for the PC industry ripples far beyond the computer makers themselves. Sales of the machines drive much of the semiconductor industry, which is already nervous that its recent recovery may be short-lived.

None the less, companies such as Intel are reporting that products it makes, such as the 80386 chip that drives the top-of-the-line IBM and Compaq computers, are still in short supply. The company is adding manufacturing capacity to produce more of the chips.

The software industry is also watching the ripple effect of personal computer sales carefully, because it is investing heavily in new programs for both IBM's PS-2 line and Apple's new Macintosh II.



Canion of Compaq: Plan to outperform the industry

Motorola's announcement came after months of rumors that the company was working on RISC technology, which has been adopted by several computer makers to speed their more powerful machines.

RISC chips perform a more limited number of operations, part of a "less is more" drive in the industry. Intel is also rumored to have a RISC project under way, but declines to confirm those reports.

Why manuals can be so user-hostile

JOBSCENE

By Eddie Coulter

Illiteracy stands high on the lists of concerns now facing educationalists. But surprisingly it is also a matter of concern to the computer industry.

The worry surrounds not so much the vast majority of computer staff, although complaints are frequently heard even of managers who are unable to string two sentences together for a management report, but those responsible for producing user documentation.

Writing standards, it seems, are sadly lacking, the ability to write often confused with the skill of technical authoring.

Part of the reason stems from a seemingly historical disregard by computer industry management of the professional nature of technical writing.

In the same way that many people believe they can write a novel and yet few do, so too many technical managements believe that their design and development engineers can write systems documentation.

The problem is that many engineers also believe it and are convinced that they are the best ones to document the systems they have developed.

The net result is that user manuals are often produced under pressure at the last minute, by the wrong person, and without thought for any additional budget.

No wonder then that the technical author has until recently played second fiddle in the orchestration of salary scales.

Gerry Gentle, managing director of Howard Electronics, a technical writing company, said: "Technical writing has always been regarded as a necessary evil.

"User documentation is often produced as an afterthought within a last-minute budget. Frequently it results in scrappy documentation, especially when engineers with no writing discipline are given the task.

"Engineers usually write lots of words with little meaning. Often they can be justifiably pleased about having developed a complex part of a system which is 20 per cent of the whole, and they will write reams about it with little thought of the importance of describing the rest of the system.

"Good, well-packaged, products need to be supported by professionally written manuals.

"The quality of the handbook helps to sell the product and is becoming an essential part of marketing or departmental communication. The more successful computer companies are planning and budgeting properly for user manuals and are benefiting through increased sales as a result."

An average writer, properly trained and with a specific technical background can expect to earn £15,000 a year after several years' experience.

Those with specific software knowledge are earning a little more — perhaps £17,000 a year — while some top technical writers on contract are known to top £24,000.

For a permanent writing job it is necessary to approach the larger computer firms. Smaller companies cannot usually justify full-time technical authors and will "contract out" their writing work.

It is a precise discipline demanding an organized, analytical mind. Firstly a technical writer requires a good understanding of one or more specific aspects of technology — either hardware or software.

People who have some management ability and self-motivation are necessary as they may have to handle several projects at once and see each through at different levels right up to publication of the completed documents.

> "Technical writers deserve better recognition — they can make or break a product"

One group is former servicemen — usually officers — with a good technical background in the armed forces. They have the advantage of knowing Ministry of Defence procedures and have usually been taught structured writing techniques.

And because the military are one of the biggest users of technical manuals, a career in writing is often possible in this sector.

Those with a technical background can be trained in technical authorship. Qualifications are obtainable through some colleges and further-education institutes and other organizations.

The Institute of Scientific and Technical Communicators(ISTC) can give advice and information on careers and courses in the subject.

"Technical writers deserve better recognition," says a member of the ISTC council, "they can make or break a company's product in the marketplace, and make a user's life either easy or more difficult."

● *Further information on careers and courses in technical writing: Institute of Scientific and Technical Communicators, 52 Oden Croft Road, Britwell, Slough, Berkshire SL2 2B2*

More are being asked to go on line

By Caroline Berman



Rippon: Great volatility in staff turnover

Companies are increasingly trawling their staff with encouragements for them to transfer to the computer department. By training them as programmers or analysts they hope to overcome shortfalls in computing staff as well as bringing other benefits to the company.

As organizations become more computerized it inevitably means that there are fewer jobs in some parts of the company but more in the data-processing department.

Companies are now finding that retraining staff can mean bringing more mature staff with a better knowledge of the business into the computing department. The policy also helps eliminate the ivory-tower image of computing, as it brings it more into contact with the rest of the organization.

At the Trustee Savings Bank the DP department takes in a fair number of people from banking, who are then trained in computing.

Andrew Wilson, departmental head of quality assurance, and research control at the TSB, commented: "They are seconded to us initially and they go to areas related to finance, working as analysts or helping us test programs or systems closely related to their own work. Some don't want to go back.

"They find the work attractive and we convert them to becoming competent analysts."

The transfer of staff between the disciplines is also of great benefit to the department.

"We recognize that to do the information technology job properly we need first hand experience of business and of work in the branches," said Mr Wilson.

Contact with those who have worked in these areas is of great assistance, because it means the knowledge spreads throughout the organization.

Of the 40 people working in the systems-development department at Massey-Ferguson in Coventry, 20 per cent come from other parts of the company. They could be from clerical areas, production control or even from the shop floor.

Said David Rippon, management information services director at MF: "We encourage this movement from other parts of the company because there is great volatility in the turnover of experienced staff. We have found that training up existing staff reduces this turnover. People become much more committed to the organization."

Mr Rippon said that those people that come from other areas of the business are in general more mature. "The other positive aspect is that they have a better business knowledge," he added. "They often make a positive impact which is an asset within the department.

"There is a danger that the computer department becomes simply technicians, removed from the real world of generating the cash that keeps them alive."

The people that transfer from different parts of the company are put through the graduate trainee scheme, which takes three to six months, and at the end they become part of a project team.

Europeans' all-round approach leads to job opportunities

From Geof Wheelwright in Ivrea, Italy

Employment opportunities in European computer research and development should be on the rise. As the personal computer market matures, the more generalist software and hardware talents of European researchers are coming into greater demand.

While the setting of standards for PCs has largely emerged from the US, based around IBM's dominance in the field, manufacturers believe that customers are now looking beyond those standards to people with a more general computer knowledge of how best to combine standard components into a solution to business problems.

According to Giancarlo Bisone, a director of Olivetti's PC division, Europeans are particularly well-placed to handle these broader issues such as the development and installation of computer networks.

Having spent seven years in Silicon Valley, Mr Bisone finds many differences between European and American approaches to training and research.

Olivetti, for example, does much of its basic personal computer development in the US but relies heavily on its laboratories in Britain, Switzerland and Italy for research into communications, networking, and the introduction of Reduced Instruction Set (RISC) technology into personal computers.

> "A lab in which we try to experiment with new things — such as the RISC architecture"

Work on RISC is taking place at the Olivetti subsidiary, Acorn, which earlier this year introduced the Archimedes RISC-based micro as an extension of its BBC micro range.

"It's a lab in which we try to experiment with new things — such as the RISC architecture — that we like to use off the mainstream for the time being," said Mr Bisone of Acorn.

"At the moment, everything is MS-DOS and Intel, but who knows what will happen three or four years from now? RISC is our insurance policy and Acorn provides the know-how and technical expertise as and when they are necessary."

In Europe there can be more problems than in the US, finding the right people, however.

"In California, for example, you can get hold of a particular specialist within 24 hours but in Italy you spend a year training your own," he explains.

"The educational system in Europe is geared more towards generalist than towards specialist people but I believe, however, this gives a wider latitude and does allow you to move more easily from one design to another."

As an example of this, he cites the success of Europeans, such as Phillipe Kahn, founder of Borland, and Apple's Jean-Louis Gassee in the American market and attributes this partially to their skill in seeing the larger picture.

Mr Bisone suggests, however, that Europeans could do well to improve their general awareness and familiarity with PCs. "The fact is that computer literacy is much higher in the US than in Europe."

A billion pound market exists for programs that store and retrieve data

Growth for personal software

By Catherine Arnst

The billion pound-a year global market for personal computer software programs that store and retrieve data is growing rapidly and competition is fierce.

Market researchers expect sales of database management systems — the industry name for such storage programs — to rise about 50 per cent annually through 1990, spurred by a more powerful generation of personal computers and an increase in networks of computers that share information.

Database management programs are like giant automatic filing cabinets. They store, list and retrieve banks of information, such as sales figures, airline reservations or personnel lists.

Ashton-Tate has long been the leader in database management systems for desktop computers with its Dbase programs. But the company's market share is slipping, a victim of internal management problems and delays in new product development.

Ashton-Tate is now facing its first significant competition from Microsoft and Lotus, the world's first and second largest software companies respectively.

Ashton-Tate ranks fourth, after Computer Associates.

A greater competitive threat, analysts say, may come from makers of database management software for bigger mainframe and minicomputers, who see the value of offering customers software that can work on both small and large machines.

To confuse the market even more, IBM has said the new operating system for its Personal System/2 family of computers, the OS/2 Extended Edition, will have a database manager built in that will be compatible with its data system for mainframe computers.

But on the positive side, IBM's participation in the market emphasises the importance of database management in the software applications hierarchy.

As IBM's PS/2 computers and others of its generation become more popular, firms are expected to link these powerful new desktop computers into company-wide or countrywide networks that can send, receive and share information with a single keystroke.

Such distributed networks will do much of the work once done by larger computers, which is why mainframe and minicomputer firms recognize the importance of expanding to the desktop.

Oracle has received much attention in the industry for its successful implementation of this strategy. The company built its reputation by providing software for minicomputers but two years ago moved its database system to IBM personal computers.

Analysts say PC software firms will have to join forces, either through acquisition or licensing, with a minicomputer software company.

Microsoft has already formed a relationship with Sybase, a seller of database systems for technical workstations.

Lotus, which lost its first place position in the software industry to Microsoft just this year, announced a partnership with IBM last spring to develop software for mainframe computers.

Inmos closes plant

The British firm Inmos has closed its American semiconductor plant in Colorado Springs with the loss off 300 jobs.

Describing the move as the last in a series of measures to restructure, the move will save the company over £11 million.

In 1984, the company employed about 1,100 people at its local plant. About 450 people were laid off in July 1986.

Douglas Stevenson, the chief executive, said: "It is very painful in human terms to have to take these actions and we will provide extensive support for the affected employees in their search for new positions, but given the heavy fixed costs in this industry we have no alternative but to centralize our development activities if we are to realize the full potential of the transputer side of the business."

Future development will be carried out in the UK.

Inmos, which is owned by Thorn-EMI, has a British plant in Newport and says customers will be unaffected by the changes.

The company will retain a US presence through its business centre, with about 130 employees, which will deliver products to the US defence industry.

Mr Stevenson concluded: "These moves reflect a greater focus on the transputer family of products while maintaining our present position in static RAMs." Transputers now account for over 50 per cent of Inmos business and are expected to account for 70-80 per cent by 1989.

The success of the novel transputer has led to speculation that other companies might be interested in purchasing Inmos.

The American computer firm Atari, which uses the transputer in one of its computers, has strongly denied reports that it is a possible purchaser.

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COMPUTER HORIZONS/2

Be wary if the US beckons in the brain drain

■ Before jumping on the technology brain drain and going to seek fame and fortune in the US, it might be worth bearing in mind that for the recently qualified, employment opportunities are declining.

According to the American Association for the Advancement of Science, the number of jobs in America for new graduates from scientific and technical fields took a nosedive, this year declining 25 percent from 1986 to 1987.

The drop, says the association, left "graduates in technical disciplines facing an extremely tight job market," and it said data showed demand for scientists and engineers was "down precipitously". Salaries being offered to new graduates "rose only slightly, if at all to engineering graduates" and other scientists.

■ The US companies General Electric (GE) and IBM have agreed to cooperate in the development of customized computer chips for IBM products. Under the agreement, which will run until the early 1990s, the two will jointly develop the chips and GE will build semiconductors based on the jointly-developed technology.

Though the parts to be built by GE will be used exclusively for IBM computers, the process developed in the joint venture could be used to develop chips for other customers, GE said.

■ The Norwegian parliament has unanimously approved government-proposed legislation tightening export controls on strategic goods, services and technology to eastern-block countries. In a vote last week the 157-seat Storting raised the maximum penalty for violating export regulations from six months imprisonment to five years. Maximum penalty for inadvertent violations was set at two years in prison plus fines.

The statute of limitations was increased from two to 10 years. The new measures had been promised after Norway and Japan were found to have sold sophisticated machines and computer software to the Soviet navy for manufacturing virtually silent propellers, making submarines harder to detect.

■ The Hong Kong Telephone Company announced last week that its planned merger with Cable and Wireless (Hong Kong) would be completed by late January. The two are to form a new company called Hong Kong Telecomunications — both 80 per cent-owned by British parent Cable and Wireless. The balance in Cable and Wireless (Hong Kong) is held by the British colonial government which has approved the merger.

The October stock-market crash has prompted the new company's management to shelve for the time being an original plan to offer for sale 11 per cent of its shares to the public.

■ Sony has said it will manufacture semiconductor devices at a factory bought from Nippon Fairchild, a Japanese subsidiary of French-owned Schlumberger. Japan's leading consumer electronics maker said a wholly owned subsidiary has been established in Nagasaki in south-western Japan to undertake the project, starting next summer.

Initial investment is estimated at about £80 million, the company said. Fairchild became independent of Schlumberger after Japan's top computer maker, Fujitsu, failed in its takeover bid because of objections raised by Reagan administration officials for national security reasons. The new facility has a capacity of producing 25,000 wafers a month.



■ The Midland Bank has appointed Gene Lockhart, above, its chief executive of information technology since January, to the main board. Mr Lockhart, 38, is a certified public accountant and has worked for Arthur Andersen and Nolan Norton. Management consultants have often argued that the increasing importance of computing and related technologies should be reflected in managers of information technology being given seats on the board of companies

BRIEFING

EVENTS

■ **Corporate Computer Security**, January 12-14, Brighton (0733 60535)
■ **Which Computer**, January 19-22, National Exhibition Centre, Birmingham (01-891 5051)
■ **Amstrad Computer Show**, February 4-6, Alexandra Palace, London (061-456 8835)
■ **Computers in Retailing**, March 15-17, National Exhibition Centre, Birmingham (01-834 1717)

Hope for the blind and deaf

Mechanical engineers are devising a computerized, mechanical hand to help deaf-blind people communicate in sign language.

Those who are both deaf and blind can only receive information by placing their hands on those of a translator who knows how to finger-spell and sign words.

Translators are not always available and are expensive to hire. Now, researchers in California have successfully built a mechanical version of the human hand that can finger-spell with the aid of a computer.

The hand, which has a range of motion similar to the human wrist and fingers, is attached to a computer keyboard and is driven by a combination of air pressure and spring-driven cables. It can finger-spell words and messages typed into a keyboard.

So far the machine, dubbed Dexter, can produce two letters per second.

But Dexter's range of motion is not perfect and the researchers, from the Smith-Kettewell Eye Research Foundation in San Francisco and the Palo Alto Veterans Administration Medical Center, are attempting to improve the device.

A small group of deaf-blind people who have tested the device were able to understand most of its letters and, in less than an hour, were correctly interpreting sentences.

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Further particulars are available from Professor C A R Hoare, Oxford University Computing Laboratory, 11 Keble Road, Oxford OX1 3QD, to whom applications including a curriculum vitae and the names of two referees should be sent to arrive by 31 December 1987.

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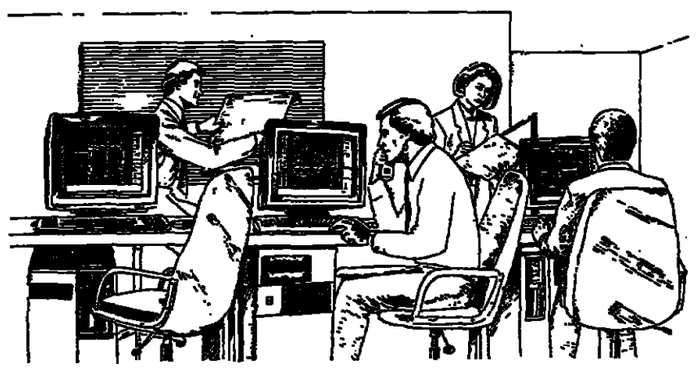
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In-depth knowledge and experience of Office Automation Tools. To develop new tools languages and products. To manage and perform the work of product definition, packaging, production and internal marketing. Co-ordination of in-or external software product development. Ref 1338.

OFFICE MANAGER
Responsible for planning and execution of international product progress and support. Able to define risk analysis and produce project calculations and develop accounting plans. Experience of project management, international marketing and sales plus administrative procedures. Ref 1339.

MARKETING MANAGER
To define marketing strategy for named accounts, in close co-operation with marketing groups. To develop and enhance marketing strategy in conjunction with international sales organisations. To develop courses and marketing material to support the strategy. Ref 1341.

MARKETING ASSISTANT
Define, together with Marketing Manager, specific competitive products in a usable, technical format but in a market oriented context. Assist in pre and post sales technical support, prepare presentation material and prototype configurations applicable to specific sectors. Monitor industry market standards. Ref 1342.

VAX SYSTEM MANAGER
To control the operation of the VAX Computer System and its peripherals, including data communication (VAX/VMS and DECNET). Responsible for system tuning, user/space management, operators and recovery procedures. Must have a minimum of one year systems manager experience. Ref 1348.

For further information and a confidential discussion please contact

FRES MEMBER
Ann Arlidge on 0462 420024

or send your resumé in the strictest confidence to :

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Hertfordshire SG5 1JQ
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COMPUTER APPOINTMENTS

SYSTEMS IMPLEMENTATION AND CONSULTANCY

Pergamon Infotech, one of the UK's leading providers of computer systems implementation and consultancy services, needs information systems professionals to help develop and extend its unique service.

PI's implementation service takes the clients system and delivers it to the end-user through an integrated package of documentation, training and implementation management and planning.

Implementation Consultancy Manager £20-£25K plus car

Applicants will be under 40, with good academic backgrounds, experienced in information systems development and consultancy, with at least 5 years experience in a senior position.

They must have designed and implemented commercial systems with a particular emphasis on close end-user involvement.

The person we appoint will be responsible for developing our services to existing and potential clients and for guiding them in the implementation and development of their computer systems.

IT/DP Sales Professional £20-£25K plus car

To meet our 1988 growth expectations a dynamic IT/DP sales professional is a key requirement.

The right candidate will have the experience and communication skills to deal directly with corporate managers developing decentralised end-user based systems. In return we offer total responsibility for the development of specific vertical markets.

Senior Implementation Consultant £16-£18K plus car

An experienced software author/trainer is also required to help us meet the growing demand for our implementation skills. A background in systems development is therefore preferable.

Responsibilities would include a variety of assignments ranging from end-user documentation, through conventional application training, to on-line tutorial systems and computer-based training.

The people we are looking for will be anxious to join a small, fast moving and expanding company and be ready to share in its success.

If your experience fits the requirement either telephone (0628) 39101 for an appointment or send your CV to

PI
PERGAMON INFOTECH

Karen O'Gorman
Pergamon Infotech Ltd
Berkshire House
Queen Street
Maidenhead
Berkshire
SL6 1NF

HORIZONS

A guide to career opportunities

See eye to eye with the smallest profession

Anyone who does not have a child with a squint or who has not been for treatment himself is unlikely to know what an orthoptist does, said an official at the British Orthoptic Society, adding that since orthoptics is such a small profession, it is less known among school leavers than other paramedical careers.

It is the smallest medical profession. Orthoptists – about 1,000 of them registered in Britain, and most of them working in the NHS – are part of the eye-care team, treating defective vision or abnormal eye-muscle movement.

As a profession, orthoptics developed during the Second World War, when trained staff were needed to test pilots' vision and, where possible, provide treatment for those with distance vision problems. Nowadays they work with the general public: since 1967 referrals from eye doctors are no longer essential, and may and do come from a variety of sources; GPs, neurologists and paediatricians among others.

The role of the orthoptist is to diagnose and monitor the condition for which referral has been made and to participate in the management. In some cases this involves exercise. Where surgery is necessary they work with the eye surgeon, providing information before the operation and supervising post-operative progress.

Much of the work is with children; much of it concerned with squints. The incidence of squints is fairly high – second only to dental decay in the conditions affecting children. One in 20 babies is born with a squint, and prompt diagnosis is essential in infants, while about 70 per cent of mentally handicapped children have vision disorders.

Cover a lazy eye with a patch for 10 minutes daily

At the other end of the age range orthoptists see a lot of elderly patients, and in the middle are patients of any age suffering from defects in eye muscle balance, whose problem may be a side-effect of conditions such as diabetes or thyroid trouble or the result of an accident. Whatever the age of the patient, orthoptists work on a one-to-one basis and must be capable of, and enjoy gaining the confidence of, their patients and, in the case of younger ones, of their parents also.

Long-term management is quite normal. With one typical patient, a baby of six months with a squint, initial treatment may be to cover the lazy eye with a patch for 10 minutes daily. Parents must be taught how to do this, and a harassed mother with a howling baby offered support over the phone. The child may be monitored until the age of eight, and the orthoptist gets to know the family well. Another patient may be referred in crisis, suffering from double vision after a road traffic accident.

Orthoptics, the treatment of abnormal eye-muscle movement, is little known to those school leavers seeking a paramedical job, but it offers a real chance to the clear eyed, says Beryl Dixon

Tests are carried out to determine the extent of damage to nerves and muscle; the immediate distress relieved as much as possible – again perhaps by "patching" or by showing the patient how to adopt a certain head position, or by temporary optical correction. Regular assessments identify a longer-term solution. In the meantime the patient must be advised and comforted and progress monitored.

Potential orthoptists, then, must be good communicators. They also need a blend of skills, ranging from the scientific through the practical to the creative. Pauline Bagley, principal of the Reading training school, lists the essential qualities in a letter she sends to referees of applicants as: good powers of observation, an ability to get on well with people, especially children; infinite patience; ingenuity, organizing ability, a sense of humour and a certain amount of imagination.

A tall order perhaps? Yes, but as much for schools as for candidates. There are only 50 to 60 training places available each year, but as everyone knows, the 18-year-old population is decreasing. With falling rolls it would be easy to recruit the wrong applicants. Schools, however, cannot afford to relax their entry requirements. On the academic side applicants must demonstrate the capacity to cope with a three-year diploma course which, like all those in professions related to medicine, is a combination of clinical practice and theory based on science.

The British Orthoptics Council sets a minimum standard of five O-levels or O-grades to include English, maths and a science (physics and biology are the most useful) and two A-levels or three Highers, but most of the 10 schools demand more. At Reading students must have seven O-levels with two A-levels – three for preference – of which two must be academic.

Pauline Bagley has an unusual dual role, being at the same time principal of the training school at Reading's Royal Berkshire Hospital and Principal District Orthoptist for West Berkshire. In the latter capacity she is responsible for providing an orthoptics service on 26 sites, including four hospitals and clinics in health centres and schools, and visual field testing on patients with glaucoma and other conditions.

There are nine qualified orthoptists on her staff and Pauline does some clinical work herself, in addition to attending administrative meetings and team planning – "close liaison is important" – with health visitors, school nurses, social workers and other professionals.

She showed me round the Royal Berkshire's department. It has a very friendly atmosphere, filled with equipment from the highly technical to the more familiar sight testing charts and pictures for testing children's vision and for lenses which can be fitted to spectacles.

But bearing in mind the age range of most patients, it also contains toys, rocking horses and giant stuffed animals. It was also full of small patients. In one cubicle a girl was peering into a machine, endeavouring to guide a picture of a lion into the centre of a cage by turning a handle in response to signals sent by her lazy eye. In another an orthoptist was

Toys to cater for the younger age range

patiently trying to cover a toddler's eye with a patch and replacing it gently every time he hurled it to the floor.

Five of the staff also hold teaching qualifications and the 12 students (four in each year of the course) are well integrated into the department – "they like having the lecture room right next door" – and are able to observe the application of newly-learned theory straight away. Some parts of their training are carried out elsewhere in the hospital; in out-patients, casualty and the theatre, where they observe eye surgery and write up case studies on eye surgery patients.

● *There are 10 training schools in Britain; one in Scotland, one in Wales and eight in England. Further information from the British Orthoptic Council, Tavistock House North, Tavistock Square, London WC1H 9HX*

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Retailing is a sophisticated, fast-moving business sector where computers are the key to success in a highly competitive market.

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In addition to an attractive salary we offer a full range of benefits including a car, pension scheme, and staff discounts.

To apply please write with full career details to Mr Patric Brazil, Group MIS Controller, Allders Department Stores Limited, P.O. Box 359, Rothschild House, The Whitgift Centre, Croydon, Surrey CR9 1NN. Telephone 01-681 5232.

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PUBLIC APPOINTMENTS

BOROUGH ARCHITECT'S DEPARTMENT

PROJECT CO-ORDINATOR

UP TO £15,039

A challenging vacancy exists for a Project Co-ordinator within our busy Borough Architect's Department.

This key post heads a small but important team which manages the current and future workload and resources. Another key facet of the post is to maintain a comprehensive and efficient system of information gathering and distribution relating to the progress of building projects to help maintain an effective Management System.

If you can demonstrate experience of management, project programming and monitoring and resource scheduling analysis, then this could be an ideal opportunity for you to further your career. Experience of computer application in this field would be a distinct advantage.

Although a management qualification would be highly desirable, it is your relevant experience and personal qualities which are of most interest.

A generous relocation package is available if required, as is assistance in finding accommodation to rent.

Informal enquiries about the post can be made by contacting Ian Parry, Chief Administrative Officer, on 01-366 6565, ext. 2022.

Application forms and job descriptions can be obtained from the Borough Architect's Department, P.O.Box 51, Civic Centre, Silver Street, Enfield, Middlesex EN1 3XB. Telephone 01-366 6565, ext. 2042. Closing date: January 5th, 1988.

BA139

London Borough of Enfield

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ARUN DISTRICT COUNCIL

CHIEF EXECUTIVES SECRETARIAT

SECRETARIAT MANAGER

M3 £17,976 to £18,768
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The post of Secretariat Manager heads the small team working directly to the Chief Executive at the centre of an Authority with a reputation for innovation, imagination and flair. Arun is in the forefront of best local government practice.

The Secretariat supports the Chief Executive in areas of:-

- ★ Strategic Management
- ★ Corporate Image Initiatives
- ★ Policy Development
- ★ Performance Achievement

Arun is an attractive place to live and work - a District with a unique blend of coast and countryside.

The ideal candidate will be a graduate and/or a holder of a professional qualification with proven management skills.

For comprehensive details regarding this post, please contact Mrs Sheila Knight, Personnel Unit, Arun District Council, The Arun Civic Centre, Maltravers Road, Littlehampton, West Sussex BN17 5LF Telephone - 0903-716133 Ext. 3167.

Closing date 8th January 1988

Arun District

Tourism Australia

OFFICE MANAGER

Tourism Australia, the statutory authority of the Australian Government, is an innovative and forward-looking organisation, responsible for the marketing of Australia internationally as a tourist destination.

A permanent position of office manager is currently available based in our London office. The office manager is responsible for:

- * Controlling and maintaining all account records, payment of accounts, invoicing, bank reconciliations, expenditure and budget control, preparation of annual budgets, cash flow estimates and VAT returns etc.
- * Must become fully conversant with all Tourism Australia regulations and staff allowances, and be responsible for their implementation and upkeep.
- * To be responsible for the day to day supervision of office staff and arrange for temporary assistance, maintenance of the necessary goods and services required by the office.

The successful applicant will become an integral part of a small highly motivated team. The person we are seeking need not have tertiary accounting qualifications but considerable book-keeping experience is essential. A salary between the range of £13,500 - £14,000 is envisaged.

Applications should be marked confidential and forwarded by Friday 19th December 1987 to:-

Area Manager UK & Ireland
Tourism Australia
4th Floor
Heathcoat House
20 Savile Row
London W1X 1AE

Royal Academy of Music

PROJECTS OFFICER

£11,322 pa - £12,075 pa
plus London Weighting Allowance £1,395 pa

Reporting to Senior Management, you will work on a wide variety of projects including overseas promotion of the Royal Academy of Music and preparations for the new (Government) funding arrangements for higher education.

You should be a graduate with business experience: applications will be particularly welcomed from holders of an MBA. Computer expertise and a knowledge of music are also desirable.

Apply in writing with full c.v. to the Administrator, Royal Academy of Music, Marylebone Road, London, NW1 5HT, or telephone Rosamund Sykes on 01-935 5461 for further details.

COMMITTEE ADMINISTRATION

(Up to £9,873 per annum)

THE PLACE is South Devon bounded on the south by beautiful coastal and creek scenery and extending inland into Dartmoor National Park.

THE POST offers an excellent opportunity for a person with proven administrative and organisational talents to develop a career at the heart of local democracy.

THE PERSON will have at least part of a relevant professional qualification (e.g. I.C.S.A.) and be capable of servicing major committees immediately.

A relocation package is available and for an informal discussion please contact Jim Barrett, Principal Administrator, on 0803 864499 Ext 139. Application form and further details may be obtained from the Personnel Section, South Hams District Council, Follaton House, Plymouth Road, Totness, Devon TQ9 5NE, ext. 150, returnable by Tuesday, 29th December 1987. 8A

SOUTH HAMS is South Devon

FIRE AUTHORITY FOR NORTHERN IRELAND

ASSISTANT CHIEF FIRE OFFICER

Applications are invited for the post of Assistant Chief Fire Officer (Fire Prevention) in the Northern Ireland Fire Brigade.

A copy of the circular giving details of the post may be obtained from the Fire Authority for Northern Ireland, 1 Seymour Street, Lisburn, Co Antrim, and applications will be received at the foregoing address up to 3 o'clock pm on Friday, 8 January 1988.

BRISTOL WATERWORKS COMPANY

ASSISTANT SOLICITOR

£13,779- £17,004

Bristol Waterworks Company, as a statutory water company, is a progressive organisation, employing 570 and supplying water to a population of more than one million over an area of almost 2400 square kilometres.

The company wishes to appoint a Solicitor, who is interested in joining a specialised but rewarding sector of the Water Industry. He/she will be accountable to the Company Secretary, himself a Solicitor.

The work is very varied and will include responsibility for commercial agreements, conveyancing and some litigation. Post-qualification experience of advocacy will be advantageous.

In return the company offers excellent working conditions, contributory pension scheme, relocation expenses where appropriate, car allowance and other benefits.

The appointment will be based at our Head Office on the southern edge of Bristol and will receive a salary within the range £13,779 to £15,294 with possible progression to £17,004.

An application form, to be returned with full CV no later than Wednesday, 23rd December, Job Description and further details are available from:

Personnel Services, Bristol Waterworks Company, Bridgewater Road, BRISTOL BS99 7AU, Telephone: Bristol (0272) 665881.

PUBLIC APPOINTMENTS

CITY OF GLASGOW
An Equal Opportunity Employer

DIRECTOR OF HOUSING

£36,477-£38,814
(From 1st February 1988)

The City of Glasgow District Council is one of the largest housing authorities in the United Kingdom. It owns and manages 170,000 council houses (57% of all housing in the City) but is committed to a policy of diversification of tenure and decentralisation of management. Notwithstanding recent improvements, the City has formidable housing problems but enjoys a reputation for pragmatism and imaginative innovation in tackling these and in facing the challenge of inadequate funding.

The Department has an annual turnover of £400m; employs 2,000 staff; and has a capital investment programme of £650m over 5 years for the improvement of its own stock; with a further £200m in support of private sector repairs, improvements and construction.

The Council now needs a new Director of Housing. The successful applicant will —

- Provide energetic leadership and maintain the current momentum and direction of change;
- Be capable of responding positively and energetically to new demands;
- Rise to the challenge and opportunities presented by new legislation;
- Display management and administrative skills of a high order.

The successful applicant will have a record of achievement at senior level in local authority housing or a related field. He/she will be a member of the Council's Management Team and directly responsible to the Chief Executive.

Sick pay, superannuation and non-contributory life assurance schemes are in operation. Generous relocation expenses are payable in appropriate cases.

Application forms, together with further details, available from the Town Clerk, City Chambers, Glasgow G2 1DU, quoting reference MLB (Telephone 041-227 4167) to be completed and returned by Thursday 31st December 1987.

Applications are welcome from individuals regardless of their colour, nationality, ethnic origin, religion, social background, marital status, sex or age. This vacancy is also open to suitably qualified disabled persons.

GLASGOW'S MILES BETTER

DIRECTOR designate National Charity

Applications are invited from those with successful fund raising and charity or business management experience for this responsible and challenging position. The Asthma Research Council, having expanded significantly in recent years, is planning further development. The Council's income has increased threefold since 1983 and it plans to provide £1 million for research in 1988. The Council's affiliated charity, the Asthma Society and Friends of the Asthma Research Council, is a membership organisation with over 150 local Branches. It continues to expand its educational and informative role through publications, meetings, conferences etc. The Asthma Research Council now wishes to appoint a person who will take over as Director within a period of not more than nine months when the present Director, Hugh Faulkner, will retire from that position.

Please write for full details and Annual Report to Hugh Faulkner, Asthma Research Council, 300 Upper Street, London N1 2XX (marked "Personal").

BRITISH OLYMPIC ASSOCIATION
DEPUTY GENERAL SECRETARY - DESIGNATE

Applications are invited from persons with sound general administrative background and experience in sport administration for the post of Deputy General Secretary-Designate.

Further details and application form may be obtained from The General Secretary, British Olympic Association, 1 Wandsworth Plain, London SW18 1EH. Telephone 01-871 2677.

Closing date for applications 31st December 1987.

TEAR FUND
Christian Concern in a World of Need

Tear Fund, an evangelical Christian relief and development agency, are looking for committed Christians to join the Teddington headquarters.

PRESS OFFICER

Who will have had experience in the media and/or public relations field. Closing date: January 18, 1988.

SENIOR SECRETARIES

Required in a number of departments.

For further information please contact the Personnel Manager, Tear Fund, 100 Church Road, Teddington, Middlesex TW11 8QE. Telephone 01-977 9144.

HEALTH CARE

Afro-Caribbean Mental Health Association

LEGAL ADVISER (SO1)
(Spinal Points 29-31)

The Afro-Caribbean Mental Health Association is a growing black mental health project, based in Brixton, which is committed to providing alternative treatments and support for the black community in Lambeth, Lewisham and Southwark.

We are looking for a legally-qualified adviser to work with clients on mental health-related problems, to work as an integral member of our multi-disciplinary staff team, and to assist the Association in the development of new strategies for educating and supporting the community on the legal dimensions of mental health care and illness.

COMMUNITY PSYCHIATRIC NURSE (AP5)
(Spinal Point 24)

We are looking for a dynamic, experienced and qualified Community Psychiatric Nurse to do challenging, clinical work which will involve assessments, treatment and rehabilitation in a community setting.

We would prefer applicants with counselling skills and/or a psychotherapeutic approach. The successful candidate will be expected to have a sound grasp of the difficulties being faced by black people and be able to formulate alternative duties.

If you are interested in either of these jobs please phone Sonia Bailey for further details and an application form.
Afro-Caribbean Mental Health Association
35-37 Electric Avenue, Brixton, London.
Telephone 01-737 3603
CLOSING DATE: 4 JANUARY 1988 (C3413)

CROYDON HEALTH AUTHORITY
Mental Handicap Unit

We are a progressive Unit actively pursuing the transfer of services from a large institution, St Lawrence's Hospital, to smaller community homes.

St Lawrence's has approximately 700 beds, and is scheduled to close around 1994. There are already six replacement Units, caring for 220 residents.

In order to prepare the residents in the hospital for a life in the community, we need:

QUALIFIED NURSES and UNQUALIFIED SUPPORT STAFF

Of any grade and experience, to work initially in St Lawrence's, but with a guaranteed future at one of the smaller Units, to become involved with the basic care and training of the residents, to improve their quality of life.

St Lawrence's is situated in Caterham, close to Croydon with all the amenities of a large London suburb, and within five miles of the M25 and the Surrey countryside.

Temporary married/single accommodation available. Relocation expenses payable in line with Whitley conditions.

For application form and job description, please contact: The Personnel Officer, Personnel Department, St Lawrence's Hospital, Coulsdon Road, Caterham, Surrey CR3 5YA. Tel: 0883 45411 ext 20/31. (MH9562)A

Shenley Hospital
OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH NURSE
Charge Nurse II Grade
Salary: £9,527-£12,527 pa inclusive

You will be responsible for the organisation of our department at Shenley, with occasional work at the Central Middlesex Hospital Unit. OHNC preferred but future part-time training may be offered to suitable candidates with relevant experience. Accountability will be to the Senior Nurse based at CMH.

Car owner/driver preferred.

Shenley Hospital is a large Psychiatric Hospital set in beautiful surroundings in South Hertfordshire, *employing about 1,200 staff.*

For informal visit contact: Mrs C. Hunter, Senior Nurse (Occ. Health), on ext 2490.

Send comprehensive CV to: Mike Martin, District Personnel Department, Central Middlesex Hospital, Acton Lane, London NW10 7NS.

Job description available on: 01-965 5733 ext 2632/5.

Closing date: January 6, 1988.
Interviews: January 18, 1988
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DISTRESSED GENTLEFOLK'S AID ASSOCIATION (DGAA)
PHYSIOTHERAPIST

Part-time PHYSIOTHERAPIST in sole charge required for up to 24 yours weekly at Vicarage Gate House Nursing Home caring for educated, elderly patients situated in a quiet part of Kensington. Fee negotiable. Please write or telephone Matron, Miss L Geary, SRN, RMN, SCM, Vicarage Gate House Nursing Home, Kensington, W8 4AQ (Tel: 01-229 2305).

HEREFORDSHIRE HEALTH AUTHORITY
DISTRICT GENERAL HOSPITAL UNIT
MATERNITY UNIT

Staff Midwives for this busy Consultant Unit which is part of an integrated midwifery service.

For further information, Job Description and application form contact Miss J. Baslington, Director of Nursing Services, Midwifery, County Hospital, Hereford. Telephone Hereford 268161 Ext 524.

CLOSING DATE: 6th January 1988.

SRN/RGN

SRN/RGN required for the responsible position of Assistant Matron (m/f) for Residential/Nursing home in East Sussex. Residential position with comfortable (single) accommodation. Pleasant working conditions.

Tel: Mrs Diment on (08926) 2114.

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BOURN, CAMBRIDGE
MEDICAL OFFICER

equivalent to senior registrar. Must hold MRCOG and be experienced in laparoscopies and ultrasonography.

Duties will be partly at Bourn Hall and the expanded facilities of Bourn Hall at the Churchill and Cromwell Hospital.

This full-time post is non-resident.

Hours, terms and conditions to be discussed at interview. Please telephone Cambridge 315 955 for an application form.

THE WHITELEY HOMES TRUST
Whiteley Village
Walton-on-Thames, Surrey
SRN
Day Duty

Resident or non-resident, required for full-time duties in our private Geriatric Hospital of 38 beds serving this unique self-contained beautiful village for the elderly. Salary according to Whitley Council scale. Appointment commencing January, 1988.

Apply: Matron, on Weybridge 847954.

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P.O. BOX 484,
VIRGINIA STREET,
WAPPING,
LONDON,
E1 9DD.

UNIVERSITY OF CAMBRIDGE
CLINICAL PHARMACOLOGY UNIT
GRADUATE RESEARCH NURSE

required to run modern Clinical Laboratory for semi-invasive cardiovascular diagnostic and research studies, and co- ordinate a novel project with Cambridge GP's for studying prevention of heart disease: instant finger-prick *measurement of cholesterol* leads to computerised randomisation to various new treatments. Preference for SRN applicants with science degree, and some typing/ computer and/ or ICU experience. Cheerful personality with energy and initiative essential.

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Contact Candy Taylor (0223- 336806) *for visits to the Unit.*

Applications to Prof. MJ Brown, Clin Pharm Unit, Level 2, F&G Block, Addenbrookes Hospital, Hills Road, Cambridge CB2 2QQ (FAX: 216893) by January 1988.

TECHNICAL

LEICESTER POLYTECHNIC
COMPUTING SERVICES
COMPUTING SUPPORT OFFICER (BUSINESS)
Scale 3/6 (£6,951 to £10,647)

The duties of this post involve a support and development role. Development work is for software on MSDOS based computer facilities. *The support role* is to academic staff in the Schools of the Business Faculty. We are seeking someone who can demonstrate a sound experience of a range of business uses and software.

Programming duties include software development and maintenance and the installation of 'bought-in' packages.

Other duties include liaison between the local user community and central computer services.

Placement on the scale will be according to qualifications and experience.

Application forms and further particulars may be obtained from the Personnel Officer, Leicester Polytechnic. Closing date December 31 1987.

FINANCIAL

SOUTH WEST SURREY HEALTH AUTHORITY
District Finance Department
FINANCIAL ACCOUNTANT
(A & C scale £10,160-£12,478 p.a. + £149 Fringe London Weighting)

Due to an internal promotion we require a Financial Accountant Reporting to the Deputy Director of Finance, you will head a department of 16 people and be responsible for all financial accounting, creditor payments, debt collection and cash control. This is an extremely busy job controlling some £11 million invoice payments and accounting for an annual spending of £47 million.

The successful candidate should be part qualified and have some experience of staff management. They will be a senior member of a professional department.

Success in this job is a certian stepping stone to further promotion.

For an informal discussion telephone Mr. P. Munday, Deputy Director of Finance on Guildford 61612.

For an application form and job description please contact:- District Personnel District Headquarters Farnham Road Hospital Guildford Surrey. Tel: 61612.
Closing Date: 29th January 1988.

Anglian Water
INTERNAL AUDIT
Salary up to £15,294

Applications are invited from qualified Accountants for positions within the Internal Audit department *based at Regional Headquarters at Huntingdon.*

Internal Audit provides an opportunity for gaining experience and knowledge of all the financial systems in existence and being developed within Anglian Water during a period of major change. This includes current developments taking place within the computer applications field.

All auditors are expected to be involved with probity, value for money, and computer audit and to initiate audit projects on their own account.

Ideal candidates will be professional qualified accountants CA, CMA, CCA or CIPFA or alternatively young applicants at final stage of their professional examinations will be considered.

A generous relocation package is available if necessary and the position carries the entitlement of a car under the Authority Car Scheme.

Application forms and full details can be obtained from Julie Robins by telephoning (0480) 56161 Ext 2117 or by writing to the address below. The closing date for application forms is 23 December 1987.

Anglian Water
Ambury Road, Huntingdon, Cambridgeshire PE18 6NZ.
AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER

LEGAL APPOINTMENTS

Is the offer of
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★ A GOOD CAR ★
★ GENUINE PARTNERSHIP PROSPECTS ★
★ WELL-KNOWN DEVELOPER CLIENTS ★

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PROPERTY

We have two challenging new positions for young part/qualified lawyers in the growing financial *centre and low tax area.*

Our extensive investment property portfolio and land bank places us amongst the top property developers in the British Isles. In the normal course *of our business some litigation work arises. The* successful applicants will therefore need to be able to demonstrate a board range of legal skills and show in particular a leaning towards either conveyancing or litigation. An attractive salary package is offered including comfortable accommodation.

In the first instance please reply in the strictest confidence enclosing full c.v. with details of remuneration package sought to P.O. Box K35

The Times
P.O. Box 484
Virginia Street
London E1 9DD

CENTEC
require
A Development Worker

The Croxteth Enterprise and Training Centre Ltd. require a Development Worker to assist them in their work in establishing small businesses in the Croxteh, Clubmoor and Pirrie areas. This is the senior of two posts which will involve evening work.

A salary of £13,000 p.a. will be paid with four weeks holiday and travel. A contract will be issued in the first instance for one year. Secondment from commerce or industry would be considered.

Further details from:
Richard Kemp, Small Business Support Unit Ltd., 617, Prescot Road, Liverpool L13 5XE Tel. 051-220 5790

THE JOSEPH ROWNTREE MEMORIAL TRUST
DIRECTOR

The Trustees are proceeding to the appointment of a successor to Mr Robin Guthrie, Director of the Trust, who has been appointed Chief Charity Commissioner with effect from 1st February, 1988.

The Trust is a charity which influences social policy and practice through *research, experiment and by initiating* action. It has a disposable income of some £2.5m per annum.

The Trustees consider that those below *the age of 40 are unlikely to have the* necessary experience for this important appointment.

Suitably qualified candidates interested in *being considered for this appointment are* invited to write by 11 January 1988 enclosing a curriculum vitae to:

Sir Donald Barron
Chairman
Joseph Rowntree Memorial Trust
Beverley House, Shipton Road
YORK YO3 6RB

LEGAL

Solicitors for the Metropolitan Police

The Solicitor to the Commissioner of the Metropolitan Police wishes to recruit solicitors to his Department which undertakes litigation on behalf of the Commissioner and his officers, and provides legal advice on a wide range of matters at all levels to police officers and members of the civil staff.

The successful applicants will be responsible for the conduct of High Court and County Court litigation, police discipline work and for advising on a considerable range of *topics both contentious and non-contentious. Additionally there will be opportunities for* inquest, industrial tribunal and licensing work and some advocacy.

Whilst training will be given, a good knowledge of civil procedure and criminal law will be an advantage. The successful applicants will represent the police in tribunals, and courts in non-prosecution matters.

Starting salaries for a Legal Officer will be in the range of £12,852 – £17,052 inclusive of London allowances for lawyers and London Weighting, depending on experience. Having gained experience and demonstrated ability promotion to Principal Legal Officer can be expected.

Principal Legal Officer salary will be in the range of £17,995 – £23,257 inclusive of allowances, in addition there is a discretionary performance payment.

There are further opportunities for promotion.

Applicants should have up to two years admitted experience.

For further details and an application form, apply to:–

The Establishment Officer, Room 213 (E8(1)213/LO), 105 Regency *Street, London SW1P 4AN or telephone 01-230 3122 (24 hour answering* service). The closing date for receipt of completed applications is 8th January 1988.

The Metropolitan Police are an equal opportunity employer.

METROPOLITAN POLICE OFFICE

CSIRO
RESEARCH FELLOW ELECTROCHEMIST/ CHEMIST
(Batteries for Remote-Area Power Supplies)

$A28,629 – $A35,203 P.A.

DIVISION OF MINERAL CHEMISTRY
PORT MELBOURNE, VICTORIA, AUSTRALIA

FIELD: Properties and performance of lead/acid batteries.

GENERAL: The Division of Mineral Chemistry conducts research in the fields of storage batteries, industrial minerals and advanced mineral products. Its base of research skills includes electrochemistry, metallurgical chemistry, solid-state chemistry, chemical thermodynamics and mineralogy. The base is supported by extensive instrumental, analytical, electronics, computing, library and engineering services.

THE JOB: The Division requires a Research *Scientist to join a team concerned with expanding* markets for Australian base-metal production through improvement of the international position of its battery industry. The appointee's particular task will be to evaluate and extend the performance *of existing and advanced lead/acid technologies* for use in stand-alone power systems for supplying electricity to people residing in remote areas. Activities will involve the use of equipment designed to study electrochemical processes, and of analytical facilities such as X-ray diffractometers and electron microscopes. This is an exciting and challenging position and the appointee will be expected to liaise with battery manufacturers and organisations involved with the development and *promotion of such power systems*, and to prepare results for both confidential reports and journal papers.

THE PERSON: A Ph. D. degree or equivalent qualification in chemistry, chemical engineering or metallurgy. *Research background in electro-*chemistry would be an advantage.

CONDITIONS: A term of 3 years, with Australian Government superannuation benefits available.

MORE INFORMATION: The selection criteria and job description for the position are available on-request – telephone (613) 647-0211.

APPLICATIONS: Should relate to the selection criteria and state relevant personal particulars *including details of qualifications and experience,* plus the names of at least two professional referees. Please quote reference number M8406 and address applications to:

The Chief,
CSIRO Division of Mineral Chemistry,
P.O. Box 124,
Port Melbourne, Vic. 3207, Australia

by 4 January, 1988.

CSIRO IS AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER

MD 87

East Berkshire Health Authority
UNIT GENERAL MANAGER
Wrexham Park Unit, Slough
SALARY: £27,689 plus performance-related pay.

Our present Unit General Manager has been promoted to a District General Manager's post, and we are looking for a replacement.

This is a developing acute unit with 584 beds and a budget of £17 Million. Almost *all acute specialties* are provided on site including a newly developed MI/EMI service.

Candidates will be experienced managers with *demonstrable* ability and achievements.

Prospective applicants may contact David Treloar, District General Manager, on Windsor 859221 or Stuart Gray, the present Unit General Manager, on Slough 34567, for informal discussions.

Information package available from the Director of Personnel, District Personnel Department, Frances House, 81 Frances Road, Windsor, Berks, SL4 3AQ. Telephone: Windsor 859221.

Closing date: 8 January 1988

ESSEX MAGISTRATES' COURTS COMMITTEE
Billericay Petty Sessional Division
TRAINEE COURT CLERK
Post No. 002
Trainee - Admin. Div. 'd' up to £9,753 + £201 Outer Fringe Allowance (pay award pending)

We have a vacancy for a Trainee Court *Clerk* to be based in the Court House at Billericay.

The successful applicant will be able to gain overall knowledge of the Magistrates' Courts system and eventually undertake various types of court.

We are looking for someone who is interested in the law and who wishes to pursue a career within the Magisterial Service. As a computerised system of accounts is in operation an interest in computers would be an advantage.

Applications are especially welcomed from Law Graduates or from newly qualified Barristers and Solicitors. It may be possible to offer Articles to suitable candidates.

Commencing salary will be in accordance with age and qualifications. As an indication, someone who has passed the Part II examinations could anticipate a starting salary in the region of £7,500 p.a.

For further details and an application form please phone 0245-492211 Ext: 24101, quoting post no. 002., or write to the Clerk of the Committee (Personnel Section), County Hall, Chelmsford CM1 1LX.

Closing date: 28 December 1987.

COUNTY SOLICITOR'S DEPARTMENT
Legal Executive
Salary up to £10,647 (£10,887 wef 1 2 88)

Applications are invited for this important post in the County Solicitor's Department The duties cover a wide range of non-*contentious legal work involving close co-*ordination of the legal role in sales purchases leases etc with all the County Council's Departments.

You will be working as part of a young and enthusiastic team and will be expected to demonstrate a high degree of initiative and responsibility. The County Solicitor's office is *based in the attractive market town of Dor-*chester, surrounded by attractive countryside but possessing good rail and road links.

You should be suitably experienced and preferably be Members of the Institute of Legal Executives or be studying for the Membership Examinations. Students will be encouraged to complete their studies.

The salary will be dependent on age, experience, qualifications and the County Council gives formal assistance for relocation expenses.

Application forms returnable by 18 January 1988 and further details obtainable from the County Solicitor, County Hall, Dorchester (Tel 0305 264264). Please quote Post No. V0044X.

DORSET County Council

LEGAL APPOINTMENTS

Property Development

First-class salary plus car and early partnership

Our clients are a 20-partner practice with modern offices in Holborn. They have a wide-ranging practice, with departments specialising in company/commercial work, commercial property, corporate tax, town planning, litigation, and private client work. They now need an experienced conveyancing solicitor to join their successful and expanding residential estates department which consists of about 30 staff and acts for a number of substantial residential property developers.

The work includes major site acquisitions, financing agreements, town planning, and the negotiation of the many commercial agreements arising within the development process.

Candidate should ideally have experience in residential development work, within private practice or with one of the major developers. They will be offered an excellent salary, a car, and early partnership prospects. And they will enjoy working in a congenial, friendly office enviornment.

Please send your c.v. in the first instance to Karen Gill.

Chambers AND PARTNERS

Recruitment Consultants

74 Long Lane, London, EC1A 9ET
Telex: 68951182 (01) 606 9371 Fax (01) 600 1793

SURREY SOLICITORS require an **ASSISTANT SOLICITOR**

Experienced in conveyancing to take over the department in growing practice. Commencing salary not less than £15,000 p.a. Position has good prospects of partnership in due course.

C.V. to Box K94, The Times, London E.1.

MANCHESTER

Busy expanding city centre practice requires recently qualified Assistant Solicitor to deal with civil litigation, High Court and county court.

Excellent salary for suitable applicant.

Apply: Mrs. M. Heald, HALL BRYDON DIGGINES, St. James's Buildings, 79/89 Oxford Street, Manchester M1 6ES. 061-228 1801.

IN PURSUIT OF PERFECTION — CITY

Our brief is to find candidates of the highest calibre who have a proven and distinguished track record in the Commercial Property field. If you fit such a description this go-ahead City firm would like to meet with you. Highly generous tailor-made terms of appointment are available to the right candidate and strictest confidence is guaranteed.

PENSIONS — CITY

This is an ideal opportunity for newly qualified Solicitors or Barristers with commercial pupillage experience to face a new challenge and a demanding workload. Extensive training and guidance will be given on commercial and private pension schemes by the expanding department of this major City practice.

LITIGATION — TUNBRIDGE WELLS

Based in the Head Office of this busy and ambitious mixed practice you will probably be a young, recently qualified practitioner with relevant experience of a range of litigation matters at both High Court and County Court level. Encouragement will be given to develop and be responsible for particular areas of interest.

BARRISTERS — LONDON & PROVINCES

Is the season of goodwill passing you by and the promise of a tenancy becoming more remote? Your best Christmas present could be a change of direction. Consider the very real rewards and career prospects available in Private Practice to young Barristers with a commercial or chancery pupillage.

For further details on these and other vacancies both in London and the Provinces, contact **ANNA GROTH** or **CARL BATTY** on **01-631 2288** (days) or **01-585 3729/01-350 0650** (evenings and weekends) or write with full C.V. to:

Gabriel Duffy Consultancy

31 SOUTHAMPTON ROW · LONDON · WC1B 5HJ

PRIVATE PRACTICE
LONDON

PROPERTY LAWYERS

We are recruiting on behalf of a number of expanding practices seeking to strengthen existing departments with high calibre lawyers. Located in all areas of Central London the quality work available and highly competitive salaries make these extremely attractive positions for ambitious applicants at all levels.

COMPANY COMMERCIAL
WC2

Outstanding opportunities exist with this respected medium sized firm for ambitious lawyers seeking greater responsibility and excellent prospects. With a first class client base the department offers the chance to develop experience in a range of corporate finance and general commercial areas.

QUALIFYING EARLY 1988?

We welcome applications from Articled Clerks due to qualify late in 1987 or early in the New Year who are interested in exploring opportunities in a variety of areas within private practice.

For details of these and other positions, contact Lucy Hartley or Judith Farmer.

CORPORATE TAX ASSISTANTS
c. £18,000

We are acting on behalf of a leading London law firm in the recruitment of high calibre Assistant Solicitors wishing to specialise in corporate tax. Candidates may be newly admitted or have up to two years post qualification experience, and must be competent to undertake challenging consultancy work. Excellent prospects for career progression within a thriving department.

For further details contact Rachel Caine or Matthew Rogers.

CORPORATE FINANCE
from £20,000 + Bens

We are currently recruiting on behalf of several Stockbrokers, Merchant and Investment banks, who seek additional staff at all levels as a result of the continuing expansion of their corporate finance departments. Candidates for the more senior positions should be corporate financiers with experience in a wide range of transactions. At executive level, we welcome applications from recently qualified lawyers with a top City firm training and good academic records.

For further details contact John Cullen or Tim Knight.

LEGAL OPPORTUNITIES
COMMERCE & INDUSTRY

£20-£40,000 + Bens

We are currently acting on behalf of a number of organisations based both in Central London and elsewhere in the UK, ranging from prestigious multinational plcs, wishing to strengthen an existing legal department, to smaller but progressive companies whose recent expansion has created the need for an 'in house' legal specialist.

These vacancies constitute a range of excellent opportunities not only for qualified solicitors/barristers wishing to broaden their initial experience of the commercial sector, but also for lawyers who may be contemplating a move out of private practice into a legal advisory role within commerce or industry.

For a confidential discussion about specific opportunities relevant to your own career aspirations, contact Tim Knight, Robert Drury or Lisa Wilson.

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16-18 NEW BRIDGE STREET, BLACKFRIARS, LONDON EC4. TEL: 01-583 0073 OR 01-874 2160 (EVENINGS & WEEKENDS)

THE LEGAL & FINANCIAL RECRUITMENT SPECIALISTS

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Commercial Property Lawyers

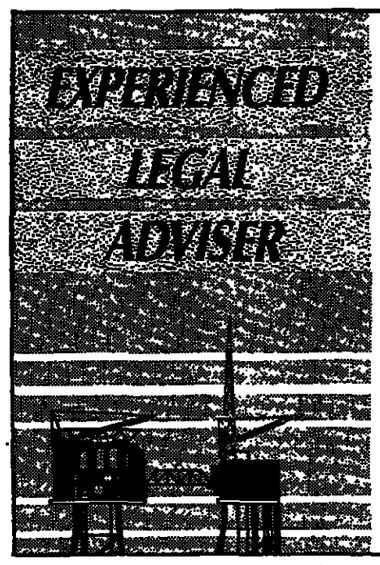
City c£50,000

Our Client, one of the leading firms of City Solicitors has a commercial property department which has expanded rapidly over a number of years. Two first-class lawyers are required to take an active part in sustaining this growth.

Candidates must be either partners or be unquestionably close to an offer of partnership with their current firm. They are expected to be of the highest standard of qualification and to have a minimum of 5 years' post-qualification experience.

Salary will be based on ability and experience. Please either apply in writing and absolute confidence, quoting reference LM668, to Terry Fuller, Spicer and Pegler Associates, Executive Selection, 13 Bruton Street, London W1X 7AH, or telephone him on (01) 480-7766 for a preliminary discussion.

Spicer and Pegler Associates
Executive Selection



ARCO British Limited, Operator of the Thames Complex gas development, offers outstanding prospects for professional development for an experienced legal adviser. We are one of the few oil and gas companies continuing to grow in the U.K. and have several exciting prospects for development.

Reporting to the Senior Attorney in London, you will be involved in a wide range of legal affairs, including matters related to major development projects in the North Sea Southern Gas Basin. A fully-qualified lawyer, you will have had previous experience in the offshore oil and gas industry and will be expected to make an immediate contribution to ARCO's expanding operations.

We offer a highly competitive remuneration package, including company car, non-contributory pension scheme, life assurance and private health scheme.

If you believe you meet our requirements, please send a full CV quoting current salary to Julian Yates, Personnel Administrator, ARCO British Limited, ARCO House, 48 Grosvenor Street, London W1X 0AN.

Atlantic Richfield Company and its subsidiaries are actively engaged in the worldwide exploration and development of hydrocarbons. In the North Sea, ARCO operates three producing gas fields and twenty-nine exploration blocks in the U.K. sector and operates six exploration blocks in the Dutch sector. In addition, we have substantial non-operated interests in the U.K., the Netherlands and Norway.

ARCO British Limited

Company Lawyer

£ competitive + car

Bucks

British Alcan Aluminium plc is the UK market leader in aluminium. It is part of the Canadian-owned Alcan Aluminium Limited Group which operates worldwide. British Alcan employs *approximately 10,500 people and operates some 30* manufacturing plants and numerous distributing companies.

We now have an attractive opportunity for a Legal Adviser within our small professional Legal Department, based at our Head Office in Gerrards Cross, Bucks. Reporting to the Company Secretary, who is a solicitor, you will be involved in providing a wide range of legal services to designated Group subsidiaries; ensuring a high standard of legal advice and assisting in co-ordinating the Group's legal and commercial interests in a diverse range of matters covering company law, commercial contracts, intellectual property and possibly litigation.

We are seeking a qualified solicitor or barrister, preferably with a minimum of 3 years' post qualification experience, either gained in industry or by dealing with senior industrial managers as clients. First class administrative ability and good interpersonal skills are essential.

An attractive remuneration package, including provision of a company car, will be offered to reflect ability and experience. Excellent benefits will include relocation assistance where appropriate.

Please write or telephone for an application form and information sheet to: R A Orrin, British Alcan Aluminium plc, Chalfont Park, Gerrards Cross, Bucks SL9 0QB. Tel: 0753 887373.

ALCAN

Solicitor/Company Secretary

Salary circa £21K/£24K per annum plus Company car and other benefits

Exchange Travel is one of the largest privately owned groups of companies in the travel industry operating a rapidly expanding network of company owned and franchised travel agencies, a tour operation providing holidays both in the U.K. and overseas and a major leisure complex.

Reporting to the Chairman and Managing Director this position would be responsible for a small department providing legal services across the full range of company activities.

Main areas of responsibility would include:-

- *Conveyancing, property and contract law, particularly in relation to the Group's rapidly expanding travel agency franchise scheme.*
- *Contentious work at both County and High Court level to include arbitration on holiday complaints.*
- *Company Secretarial role for Group Companies.*
- *Some involvement in the Group's self administered Pension Scheme.*
- *General advice to Directors and management.*

Good inter-personal skills are essential for this challenging and interesting position which will involve close liaison with the franchise and property departments.

The position will be based initially at Hastings with relocation to Exeter on completion of new prestige national headquarters during Winter 1988/89. The remuneration package will include a company car, medical insurance, non-contributory pension, four weeks annual leave with good travel concessions and a relocation package.

Applications in writing, with full c.v. indicating present salary to:-
Ross G. McNally,
Group Managing Director,
Exchange Travel (Holdings) Ltd., Exchange House,
Parker Road, Hastings, East Sussex. TN34 3UB.

Exchange — A GOOD NAME IN TRAVEL

Company Commercial Partner Designate

My clients are an established City legal practice with a varied range of clients. The firm is centrally located in prestigious modern offices and the working environment is extremely congenial.

They seek to recruit a solicitor of partnership calibre with sound business sense, and at least five years relevant experience, to join their expanding Company Commercial department. The work is demanding and extremely varied and involves acting for a diverse range of corporate clients.

This appointment presents a unique career opportunity for an ambitious solicitor to achieve early partnership. The salary and benefits, which will take into account age and experience, will be extremely attractive.

If you wish to apply for this appointment, or to discuss your suitability, please send your C.V. to John Hamilton quoting JH/201 at:

John Hamilton Associates,
51-53 High Street,
Guildford,
Surrey GU1 3DY

JHA
John Hamilton Associates
Management & Recruitment Consultants

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We need an ambitious and skilled litigator capable of making a significant contribution to a rapidly growing section of the firm. The successful candidate will probably have 3/4 years P.Q.E.

The work involves major contractual and media law problems.

We are a resourceful, expanding and friendly commercial practice.

Please telephone for an informal discussion or write with C.V. in strictest confidence to:-

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LONDON W1V 6QJ
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Solicitors with 3 offices in Bury/Bolton area require solicitor and/or Legal Executive for general work with litigation (crime, matrimonial) bias. Would suit newly admitted wishing to develop own potential. Attractive package offered.

Phone Mr Beeder 061-797 5650 or Mr Salt 0204-68 6111.

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We have a vacancy for a barrister to work on a series of specialist law reports. This is a senior editorial position with responsibility for ensuring coverage of all relevant cases, attending court, preparing case digests and headnotes, instructing and liaising with freelance reporters, and deputising for the editor in the running of the editorial office and general control of the publication.

An interest in financial and revenue law is essential. Some law reporting experience would be an advantage but training can be given if necessary.

A substantial salary and benefits will be paid according to the experience and ability of the person appointed and the position carries with it the opportunity to progress in an interesting and challenging professional publishing environment.

Please reply with full CV to:
Rosalind Miller
Personnel Officer
Butterworth & Co (Publishers) Ltd
88 Kingsway
London WC2B 6AB

Butterworths

As part of our continuing programme of expansion we have two new vacancies

WILD HEWITSON & SHAW solicitors

In Bishop's Stratford for an enterprising and personable Solicitor, having at least two years' post admission experience, to handle the growth of mixed commercial and conveyancing work on the doorstep of Stansted Airport.

In Saffron Walden for a newly qualified Solicitor, having served good London Articles, who is seeking early responsibility, a full and interesting commercial workload and a perfect working environment.

Please apply with full CV to:
Mr. D E Holleat, Wild, Hewitson & Shaw,
53 High Street, Saffron Walden, Essex CB10 1AR.
Tel: 0799-22471.

SOMERSET
Criminal Litigation

We are a busy general practice with a long-term commitment to criminal litigation.

We seek a Solicitor with at least one year's post qualification experience to take charge of an existing caseload. The successful applicant will be willing and able to undertake a considerable amount of advocacy in the Magistrates' Court, but should also be capable of dealing with a limited amount of personal injury litigation.

Salary - c. £16,000 with prospects for the right application.

Please apply to:
ASH CLIFFORD & CO.
10-14 Northgate, Bridgwater,
Somerset TA6 3EU.
or telephone (0278) 451327 and ask for Nigel Yeo.

COMPANY/COMMERCIAL — To £30 K
An alert and enthusiastic young solicitor is required for the company/commercial department of a medium-sized City firm to handle a wide range of corporate matters, with the opportunity to become involved in top-drawer Yellow Book work.

RESIDENTIAL PROPERTY — To £35 K
A solicitor with up to five years' relevant experience is sought by this progressive Central London practice to undertake a high quality caseload of residential conveyancing. Prospects are excellent.

COMMERCIAL LITIGATION — c. £23 K
As a result of expansion in its thriving commercial litigation department a well-established City practice has an urgent need for a recently qualified solicitor with ability and drive.

CONVEYANCING — £ NEG
We are instructed by a respected Central London firm to introduce a solicitor with around 3 years' PQE to assume responsibility for commercial work including development and funding and some estate conveyancing. An attractive salary package will be offered.

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(answerphone after office hours)

SOLICITORS. Lawyers. Legal Staff. We have first class opportunities both for London and Nationwide. Visit in complete confidence. Chancery Legal Appointments, 85/94 Chancery Lane, London, WC2 1DT (First floor above Eric & Ravenscroft). Telephone 01-404 5671. Professional individual attention for the individual professional.

LAWYER - MAYFAIR, to liaise with our leading Auditors and city solicitor, to run in house Professional negligence case for company Director with substantial claim against previous Auditors. The post is a for 1, 2 or 3 months with the possibility of a permanent position (there are 4 weeks to the first deadline) first or 2i University law graduate. Phone 01 4934179 (daytime).

S.E. ENGLAND provincial chambers has vacancy for 1 Common-Law Practioner circa 6 years call: Also for more junior Tenant. C.V. to Gavin Slade, Senior Clerk, Reading Chambers, 16/18 Friar St, Reading, Berks.

COSTS DRAFTSMAN is sought by leading City firm. Ex salary and working conditions. Contact Law Personnel. Tel: 01-242 1281 (ans. aft. bus. hrs.)

01-481 4481

LEGAL APPOINTMENTS

01-481 4481

Property Assistant

Kensington

Ambitious and fast-expanding medium-sized firm with modern high-tech offices near Gloucester Road, seeks a legal assistant in his or her twenties to assist the senior partner with his commercial property work.

The successful candidate will be a bright, articulate individual with two years' conveyancing experience in a solicitor's office, who will be able to use their initiative and cope with the demands of the modern client.

The work includes high volume commercial property work, licences to assign and general management work with Landlord & Tenant Act renewals, etc. The senior partner will also require assistance with a whole variety of commercial property work.

Excellent remuneration is offered, and a first-class working environment.

For further details, please ring Dominique Graham, or write to her with your c.v.

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—AND PARTNERS—

74 Long Lane, London, EC1A 9ET

Telex: 8956182 (01) 606 9371 Fax: (01) 600 1798

Trust Lawyer Bermuda

Due to the growth of our Personal Trust business, The Bank of Bermuda Limited is seeking a qualified lawyer who has specialized in Trust and Private client work to join its Trust Division in Bermuda. The successful candidate will have several years' post qualification experience and be able to demonstrate expertise in all aspects of private client work including Trust, Settlements, International Trust and Estate Planning. A thorough knowledge of Company Law, Wills, Probate Practice and Personal Trust Taxation is also required.

This position requires a mature and practical approach together with the ability to provide a highly personalized service to an international clientele.

The Bank of Bermuda is Bermuda's largest Bank with over $3 billion in assets and 1300 employees worldwide. Our Personal Trust Division provides a full range of trust services to a prestigious group of local and international clients through our Head Office in Bermuda and overseas branches in London, Hong Kong, Guernsey and New York. Ours is a sophisticated banking environment in a premier location.

The Bank of Bermuda offers a competitive tax-free salary and comprehensive benefits package.

For information regarding this interesting and challenging position, contact Mrs. Nea Roloff on 809-295-4000 (ext 3320) or FAX 809-292-3814 or submit a detailed CV to her attention, Bank of Bermuda Limited Representative Office, Minster House, 12 Arthur St., London EC4R 9AB, England.

Should your spouse be seeking employment in Bermuda, please include his/her CV. Interviews will be held in the UK in January 1988.

THE BANK OF BERMUDA LIMITED

SERIOUS FRAUD OFFICE

Responsible posts for Lawyers

Up to £26,860

The Serious Fraud Office, a new Government Department, will have substantial statutory powers to investigate and prosecute the most serious and complex cases of fraud. Lawyers, accountants and the police will work closely together at an office in Central London and there are openings for lawyers with the talent and drive to tackle complex cases with a fresh approach.

You will be involved in all aspects of SFO cases, advising on lines of enquiry, evidential matters and all questions of law. You will control the direction and conduct of particular cases and may exercise the statutory investigative powers in relation to others.

You must be either a solicitor admitted in England or a barrister called to the English Bar, with a sound knowledge of criminal law and practice.

Starting salary will be in the range of £22,310 to £26,860 depending on qualifications and experience. There are good prospects for promotion as the work of the Serious Fraud Office develops.

For further details and an application form (to be returned by 12 January 1988) write to Civil Service Commission, Alencon Link, Basingstoke, Hants RG21 1JB, or telephone Basingstoke (0256) 468551 (answering service operates outside office hours). Please quote ref: G/7365.

The Civil Service is an equal opportunity employer

ASA LAW

PERMANENT APPOINTMENTS FOR SOLICITORS

We are a friendly agency offering a highly personalised service. Our clients are seeking staff at all levels in London and the provinces. If you are newly qualified or contemplating a career move we can help you. We also have vacancies for New Zealand & Australian Solicitors.

Call Julia Wyksham-Martin on 01 404 4828 or write with full CV to ASA Law Permanent Appointments 31-37 Cursitor Street Off Chancery Lane London EC4A 1LT

W & J Burness WS

SOLICITORS

We are one of Scotland's leading law firms. We need a new Assistant to handle international contracts and general corporate work in our Company Department. (Based in new, modern offices overlooking Edinburgh Castle). Only those who combine personality, dedication and flair with a high level of professionalism need apply.

Newly or recently qualified solicitors who fancy a change should apply to:

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16 Hope Street
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Edinburgh, EH2 4DD

Thomson Snell & Passmore

Solicitors

Company/ Commercial Lawyer

Tonbridge

An excellent opportunity has now arisen in our expanding Tonbridge office for an ambitious commercial lawyer seeking a challenging position in this large and growing firm.

We are looking for an out-going person with at least 2 years general company/commercial experience, post admission, whose personal qualities are suited to a progressive and forward-looking firm.

As one of the largest practices outside London and the oldest professional firm in the country we can offer the right candidate a competitive salary and good partnership prospects.

Please ring or write to:

Charles Hooper
Firm's Administrator
Thomson Snell & Passmore
3 Lonsdale Gardens
Tunbridge Wells
Kent
TN1 1NX
Tel: Tunbridge Wells (0892) 510000

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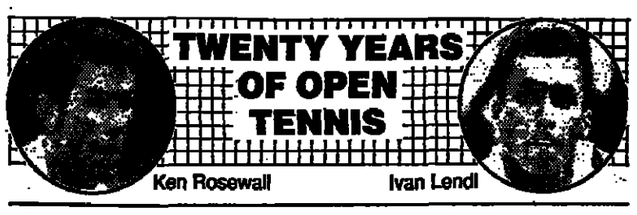
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In two decades a sporting vocation has evolved into an occupational chore

When love was hit out of court



The twentieth season of open competition is almost over. In the first of two articles REX BELLAMY, our Tennis Correspondent, discusses the changes within the game during those two decades

Open competition was born at Bournemouth on April 22, 1968. For the first time, professionals, shamateurs and amateurs competed together. That tournament made world headlines because Mark Cox beat Pancho Gonzales and Roy Emerson in the span of 26 hours — a feat more deeply etched on the memory than the identity of the eventual champions.

Those champions were Ken Rosewall and Virginia Wade and, in doubles, Emerson and Rod Laver, the sisters Christine Janes and Nell Truman, and Miss Wade and Bob Howe. That same year Rosewall (France), Laver (Wimbledon) and Miss Wade (United States) won historic grand slam singles titles.

In 1976, at Stockholm, Cox became the last British player to win an important singles event on the men's circuit. By that time a revolution had gathered momentum: a revolution that made the international circuit big business and promoted its celebrities to the multi-millionaire class.

In 1968 Ann Jones signed a professional contract that guaranteed her $25,000 (£16,000) for 12 months' work. In 1973 Margaret Court received the same sum for winning the US championship. This year's US singles champions each won $250,000 (about £140,000). At Wimbledon, the first open champions were offered £2,000 (men) and £750. This year's 20th open champions played for £155,000 and £139,500.

Nowadays the leading players double, treble, or even quadruple their official tournament earnings by endorsing this or that product and appearing in a variety of independently promoted events. Their agents take a cut of all that, usually about 20 per cent. International management companies have moved into every area of the game, using their marketing expertise to make big money for players, tournaments, and themselves.

With so much at stake, playing on the world circuit has become more of an occupational chore and less of a vocation — a chance to see the world while playing a game. Most players still respect the sporting code but the relentless intensity of competition has led to recurrent outbursts of misconduct.

At different times Ilie Nastase and John McEnroe have simultaneously been the game's best and worst advertisements. The open era's system of graded penalties, including fines and suspensions, is basically sound. But there is too much scope for appeals to the new breed of arbitrators. All that is less effective than an umpire's power to impose instant disqualification.

The past 20 years have spawned powerful "unions" for professionals of both sexes. Their favourite toys are the rankings computers, which assess the players' results over a 12-month period and decide who deserves to go straight into the main draws for big tournaments. This has been the era of service-line monitors using infra-red rays, introduced at Wimbledon in 1980 after widespread experiments. It has been the era of the two-fisted backhand (a wining fashion originally based on the precocious success of Bjorn Borg and Chris Evert), and the era in which — largely because of a South American advance inspired by Guillermo Vilas — Spanish has become the game's second language.

Similarly, Borg kindled a Swedish fire that now burns with a consuming flame. Players born in Europe, particularly in Sweden or Czechoslovakia, have assumed the authority Australians and Americans exercised in the days when they were the big fish in a much smaller pool.

Until 1975 three of the four grand slam championships (the French, on clay, was the exception) were played on grass. But the US moved over to shale and (in 1978) hard courts in turn. Future Australian championships will also be played on hard courts. The US and Australian tournaments also shifted from private to public facilities. The most radical change in surfaces has concerned the rash of carpet-like courts: a consequence of the prodigious expansion of indoor play.

There is no longer even a pretence that play shall be continuous. We have become reluctantly familiar with official rest intervals in which the players sit on chairs (installed at Wimbledon in 1975) or, before serving, bounce balls. Neither practice is rich in entertainment value.

The tie-break, hotly controversial when introduced in the US in 1970, was swiftly refined and was used at Wimbledon in 1971. Most of us have been won over by its intrinsic drama: and have been grateful for its abbreviating effect on matches tediously dominated by the service and volley. Logically, the tie-break should be used in every set or none. But the US championships (every set) and the Davis Cup competition (none) are the only big events to do that.

In 1969 the French championships made a premature, unsuccessful experiment with floodlit play. The game was bigger business by 1975, when floodlighting was introduced to a more receptive public at Forest Hills. It remains controversial, at grand slam level anyway, because of the contrast in playing conditions as daylight slips into twilight and night.

Drug tests, dating from an isolated case at the 1974 French championships, became commonplace once the game had been sucked into the Olympic mainstream. Tennis will return to the Games next year: but it was never really compatible with the Olympics and probably never will be unless they become thoroughly professional.

The principle of equal pay for unequal play was accepted at the 1973 US championships. They have been stock with it but, happily, the error has not been infectious. On the other hand the grand slam tournaments have all been induced to grant women the same size draw as the men, an indiscretion which advertises the disparity between the leading women and the rank and file. Grand slam tournaments are for graduates, not students.

At Wimbledon we have become familiar with yellow balls — and with ball girls as well as ball boys. Sunday play, an emergency measure in 1972 and 1973, has been formally scheduled since 1982. A year later the women's singles draw was expanded and 12.30 starts became official. A series of early starts enforced by bad weather had previously made nonsense of the committee's insistence that play before two o'clock was impracticable.

In 20 years of open competition even dreams (nightmares, too) have become practicable.

TOMORROW

The players who have dominated the open era.



Opening shot: Rosewall blazes the trail to victory at Bournemouth in 1968

SPORTS LETTERS

Events arising out of England's cricket tour of Pakistan have provoked a large correspondence, of which the following is a selection. Our regular letters feature will appear as usual on Thursday.

Faisalabad rumpus inevitable

From Mr T. A. Seer

Sir, The present acrimonious situation existing in cricket at international level, and demonstrated at its worst by the captain of England's outburst against one of the umpires officiating in the second Test match in Faisalabad, is not only unsurprising but inevitable.

For successive generations this country's establishment has maintained an air of superiority which has developed into a complex.

Challenges by early Australian sides, through Packer to current initiatives by the black cricketing nations, have all been seen as ill-conceived, doomed-to-failure and rather presumptuous.

The current situation of open cricket warfare between England and Pakistan has a more recent history dating from 1982. In that year Mr David Constant gave an incorrect decision in favour of England in the final and decisive Test match of a series which England went on to win. The Press and the cricket establishment heaped adverse comment on the call for neutral umpiring from Pakistan.

In the following year England visited Pakistan on a tour surrounded before, during and after by controversy over umpiring and provocative verbal attacks by Press and players.

This summer Pakistan, as they have the right to, questioned the inclusion of Mr Constant and Mr Whitehead on the panel of umpires. Lord's arrogantly rejected their objections. The media criticized, abused and ridiculed the cricket team and the manager of a developing nation which was formerly part of the Empire. Scepticism accompanied the start of the World Cup tournament staged on the Indian sub-continent.

The stage was set for the present tour and the current exchanges. The reports on doctored pitches, gamesmanship by the Pakistanis and biased umpires began to appear in the daily papers even before the first ball was bowled. Interviews with the England side and management indicated that their views were formed along similar lines. Only the cricket correspondent of *The Times* has maintained poise and sanity in his objective reporting. Elsewhere, hysteria has taken hold.

There should be no surprise then at the dissent displayed. When endorsed by the management — inconceivable if it were a home official — it becomes inevitable that a captain not renowned for his articulate thought, speech or manner will go for the jugular.

The moral ground, if ever any existed, has certainly been relinquished by the England team, their management and the English cricket establishment as a whole.

Pack up, England, and come home.

Yours faithfully,
T. A. SEER,
45 Creet House,
Frazier Street, SE1.
December 9.

Deep-seated cause

From M. A. Stacey

Sir, Your leading article (December 10), commenting upon recent events on the cricketing field in Pakistan, is in my view somewhat one-sided.

All true sportsmen can only regret the deplorable confrontation between the English captain and the umpire; but before you condemn Mr Gatting, should you not investigate the deep-seated cause of the argument?

I would suggest to you that the frustration of our cricketers in Pakistan has been caused more from the unfair tactics of Pakistan's players, rather than the poor quality of the umpiring decisions. Many sports commentators disguise these tactics as a "professional approach", but I believe it is about time that certain of the Pakistani team be labelled as cheats. Only cheats appeal for unfair dismissal of batsmen. Players skilled at Test level know when the ball has snicked the bat, know when a catch has been made fairly, and how when a pad has genuinely prevented the ball from hitting the wickets. By constantly pressurizing second-rate umpires, the Pakistani players have sought unfair advantage.

I support your argument that Test cricketers should set an example to our young players to prevent cricket suffering the same malaise that now plagues football, tennis and boxing. But surely the most important lesson for them to learn is that cheating doesn't pay. In condemning Mr Gatting for his outburst, you ignore the real disease that is creeping into cricket.

Whatever punishment Mr Gatting receives, it should not go so far as removing him from the captaincy of the England team. He is a first-class cricketer worthy of his place in the side, and above all he is an honest and fair man

These are qualities which the TCCB should support and uphold above all others. God forbid that we are inflicted with a diplomat as captain, one who would politely sidestep (and therefore condone) unfair tactics from the opposition. We have had such captains before and discarded them because their cricketing abilities have rarely matched their diplomatic skills.

M. A. STACEY
25 Plymouth Rd,
Birmingham.
December 10.

Spirit lacking from the off

From Mr Dennis J. Fowle

Sir, The confrontation between Mike Gatting and the umpire would have been a disgrace to the real spirit of cricket — had this series been played in anything like that spirit.

As it is we have seen continued Pakistani attempts to cheat, standards of umpiring which would be considered appalling on an English village green, wickets doctored to suit home bowlers and lowered levels of etiquette towards the tourists.

The game was brought into disrepute well before the incident which finally ignited the deeply smouldering discontent felt not only by English players but also by very many followers of the great game in this country.

Someone had to stand up and be counted and say, "We've had enough," and when Mike Gatting confronted the umpire many of us must have felt, after such provocation, he was pointing the finger of accusation at Pakistan on behalf of a nation.

It is a pity rough words were used and it happened in the heat of the moment — but at the end of the day much more good than harm is likely to come from this very understandable outburst.

Yours faithfully,
DENNIS J. FOWLE,
4 Valentine Place, SE1.
December 9.

True Englishman

From Mr M. Darby,

Sir, I am glad to note that the weight of public opinion has caused you to dilute your criticism of Mike Gatting as seen in today's edition of *The Times* (December 10).

Perhaps an opinion poll would bring you to understand that Mr Gatting is a true Englishman who will not be taken advantage of and has no intention of seeing his country humiliated by people whose obvious intention is to win at all costs.

Yours faithfully,
M. DARBY,
5 Downs Side,
Cheam, Surrey.
December 10.

Call for gentlemen

From Mr D. G. A. Sanders,

Sir, In cricket the formal separation of Gentlemen and Players has ended. In all sport, whether or not it has become business too, the need for players to be gentlemen remains as great as ever.

In recent days our hopes for future generations have been raised by statesmen showing evidence of behaving like gentlemen. As they glance over their shoulders for domestic support, let us resolve that they may see gentlemen (or rather "gentle persons") there, too.

Yours faithfully,
D. G. A. Sanders,
Potters, Worth,
West Sussex.
December 11.

Growing collection

From Mr C. J. A. Slater

Sir, The stoppage of play due to argument in the Pakistan Test match has been added to my collection.

It includes too dark, too wet, reflections in windows (too bright), changing shirts, racing on TV, wrong-shaped ball, and miscellaneous problems with Dickie Bird.

Next year I shall be paying my non-refundable £10 again. Will "man in straitjacket stops play" complete my collection?

Yours faithfully,
C. J. A. SLATER,
29 Rookwood Drive,
Stevenage, Herts.
December 10.

Television replays

From Mr Jeremy Penn

Sir, One must hope that the clamour over accusations of cheating in the current Test series in Pakistan will at least spur the authorities into action, and the more promptly the better. About the only thing the Pakistani authorities seem to have got right was their request for neutral umpires before the series started, and given their unenviable record at home it seems incredible that this was not accepted.

However, as Dickie Bird rightly commented, the Pakistani umpires are essentially inexperienced, as are those from all the cricketing countries where the first-class game is played mainly over the weekends. As soon as possible the authorities should therefore form a committee to look into the uses of television replays as an aid to the umpires in the field. This is already done very successfully in American Football, and in cricket would sometimes be the only way for an umpire to give a fair decision.

Run outs, stumpings and some catches at the wicket are obvious examples in which such an aid would be invaluable, and television films of the current series have shown how the Pakistani umpires could have benefited had they been offered the hindsight of a video replay.

A determined effort would see initial trials ready to be carried out during the Test series next season. The health of world cricket demands action of this urgency.

Yours faithfully,
JEREMY PENN,
14 Henning Street,
SW11 3DR.

TCCB should examine its own conduct

From Mr Martin Mendelsohn

Sir, I read with interest the leading article and the other two articles (December 10) by your cricket correspondents on the subject of the events in Pakistan. With respect, the real problem is left untouched. Mike Gatting is to be praised for having the courage to stand up to obnoxious and contemptuous conduct towards himself and his entire team. That he was placed in such an invidious position is undoubtedly due to the apathy of the TCCB, who have totally failed to come to grips with the emerging problems before the inevitable explosion occurred.

The order from the TCCB, uniquely British, to "behave yourselves, chaps" while being provoked by outrageous conduct, without tackling the root cause, was inept. The problem was in evidence on the first day of the first Test; their failure then to act swiftly and decisively is to my mind the prime factor in permitting the tour to be placed in jeopardy. They will no doubt condemn Mike Gatting for reacting, to the point where he had to say "enough is enough". In doing so they should examine their own conduct, which is far more responsible for the events which cause all cricket lovers such distress.

Yours faithfully,
MARTIN MENDELSOHN,
22-26 Paul Street, EC2.
December 10.

McEnroe reference was unwarranted

From Mr John Warner

Dear Sir, All those who love cricket will be sad to read of the events in Pakistan. The writer, whose father had great problems over 50 years ago, remembers endless discussions for decade after decade about bodyline. The greatest problem was to unravel the true course of events.

I was amazed, therefore, to read your Cricket Correspondent, for whom my admiration is great, and your leader of December 10 comparing the behaviour of the England captain with that of McEnroe.

There is no record of the umpire at Wimbledon ever calling McEnroe a cheat and setting off the disputes on court. Many must feel that your point is ill made and that at least the England captain was sorely tried and defamed by the official.

One wonders how things would have gone in 1932-33 if England had met Australia in eight Test matches and nine one-day contests in six months! I hope the authorities will remember the very many qualities of the England captain.

Yours sincerely,
JOHN WARNER,
Winnie's Cottage,
Hyde Common,
Fordingbridge,
Hampshire.

Dismiss Gatting

From Mr N. W. Hudson

Sir, There is no room for debate about cricket in Pakistan. Whether the umpiring was good or bad is irrelevant. Gatting should be summarily dismissed as captain because his behaviour is inexcusable and unacceptable. The tour should be cancelled before any more damage is done.

Yours faithfully,
N. W. HUDSON,
31 Station Road,
Ampthill, Bedford.
December 9.

Two extra players

From Mr John R. Cummins

Sir, Poor Mike Gatting, his head will surely roll. Any game becomes difficult when the opposition have two extra "players". Ban Pakistan from international cricket for their deplorable tactics until they conform to the rules of the game both written and unwritten.

Yours faithfully,
JOHN R. CUMMINS
35 St Catherine's Road,
Baglon, Port Talbot,
West Glamorgan.
December 10.

Change the rule

From Mr Alan J. Ratcliffe

Dear Sir, After further disgraceful scenes on the sub-continent, where gentlemanly conduct has been consumed by extreme provocation and unbending officialdom, those who supervise the laws of cricket should give serious consideration to a revision of Law 32.

So much controversy has arisen in recent years about batpad catches that the application of a little common sense by the administrators would remove a means of dismissal which places unnecessary pressure on umpires.

Law 32 should not allow a batsman to be out unless the catch is taken cleanly by a fieldsman, directly from the bat. Should the ball make contact with bat and pad, then the batsman should be allowed to be not out.

This interpretation would be more in keeping with the original spirit of the game,

Yours faithfully,

ALAN J. RATCLIFFE.
192 Haunch Lane,
King's Heath,
Birmingham, B13 0QR.
December 9.

Unsuited for role

From Mr T. J. Langham

Sir, I feel it is only right to say that Mike Gatting should no longer be England's captain. No matter how many bad decisions have been made over the past few days or weeks, his behaviour and comments made on the field of play and also afterwards make him unsuited for such a role. I hope he does the decent thing and resigns or else be sacked before the next tour is due to start shortly after Christmas.

I hope many more feel as I do and write what they think of him as a leader.

Yours faithfully,

TERRY LANGHOLM,
31 Holliers Walk,
Hinckley, Leicestershire.
December 9.

CRICKET: AUSTRALIAN CAPTAIN RESCUES HIS COUNTRY WHILE VENGSARKAR LANDS IN HOT WATER

Border heads Test run list after his double century

Adelaide (Reuter) — Allan Border became Australia's most prolific run scorer in Test matches on the way to his first Test double century yesterday.

The Australian captain reached 205 on the fourth day of the second Test match against New Zealand and, as so often in the past, his innings pulled Australia out of trouble.

Border, aged 32, came to the wicket on Sunday at 29 for two with Australia needing 286 to avoid the follow-on. By the time he was dismissed 10 hours later Australia were 417 for six and the match appeared destined for a draw.

At the close Australia were 496 for nine, a lead of 11 runs after New Zealand scored 485 for nine declared in their first innings.

During his innings on Sunday, Border passed the run total of two knights — Sir Leonard Hutton and Sir Donald Bradman.

Resuming at 105 yesterday morning, Border and Peter Sleep eased Australia past the follow-on target in mid-morning before the Sydney-born batsman reached his seventh 150 in Tests.

In mid-afternoon Border, on 182, drove to long off to gain the three runs required to pass Greg Chappell's total of 7,110.

He appeared more pleased by his double century, achieved with his favourite sweep shot. The two runs that took him to 201 were greeted with a punch in the air and a broad smile from the often taciturn Australian.

But minutes later Border advanced down the pitch, completely missed a delivery from John Bracewell and was stumped by Ian Smith, who had an easier stumping chance when Border was on 57.

The Australian ranks seventh in the all-time list with 7,131 Test runs. He is the only player among the top seven still playing and should pass the 7,249 runs of Wally Hammond, of England, later this summer. Sunil Gavaskar, of India, tops the list with 10,122 runs.

"I need time to reflect on it but I feel a great sense of pride to have done it," Border said. "I hope I've got a few more runs left in me. It's all very well to beat records but my main aim out in the middle is to help Australia to maintain its recent good run."

Border's feat overshadowed two gritty innings by lower-order Australian batsmen. Sleep scored a watchful 62, his second Test 50, and featured in a 154-run partnership with Border

Late in the day wicketkeeper, Greg Dyer, hit his first Test 50, including seven fours, before being run out for 60 shortly before the close.

New Zealand's bowlers stuck to their task well in the 40° C heat and Craig McDermott supplied Richard Hadlee with his fourth wicket of the match

Australia won the first of the three Tests by nine wickets.

NEW ZEALAND: First innings 485 for 9 dec (A N Jones 150, M D Crowe 137; C J McDermott 4 for 135).

AUSTRALIA: First Innings

G R Marsh c Gray b Hadlee	30
D C Boon b Hadlee	6
D M Jones c Smith b Hadlee	0
*A R Border st Smith b Bracewell	205
S R Waugh lbw b Snedden	61
P R Sleep c Smith b Morrison	62
M R J Veletta c sub b Bracewell	10
†G C Dyer run out	60
C J McDermott lbw b Hadlee	18
T B A May not out	14
B A Reid not out	5
Extras (b 2, lb 13, w 1, nb 9)	25
Total (9 wkts)	496

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-29, 2-29, 3-85, 4-201, 5-355, 6-380, 7-417, 8-451, 9-489.
BOWLING: Hadlee 41-15-68-4; Morrison 22-0-89-1; Bracewell 48-8-122-2; Snedden 32-6-89-1; Gray 44-10-102-0; Patel 7-3-11-0.

India captain faces fine for breaking silence

Bombay (Reuter) — Dilip Vengsarkar, the captain of India, faces a possible fine for writing a newspaper column on the Test series against West Indies. Ranbir Singh, secretary of the Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI), said yesterday it would ask Vengsarkar to justify breaking his contract by failing to remain silent.

Singh said the BCCI could fine Vengsarkar 15,000 rupees (about £830), double for another offence, and could ban him for a third. Vengsarkar and his India colleagues signed a contract before the series promising not to use their shirts for advertising or to write about matches while playing them.

But the captain believed the contract, like those signed by leading Indian players in past years, was a formality and that the BCCI would turn a blind eye. Vengsarkar pointed out that Viv Richards, the West Indies captain, provided a rival column and his own views were needed to redress the balance.

Last week, Richards reiterated his belief that a controversial catch he took to dismiss Vengsarkar in a one-day match at Nagpur was fair.

"If the West Indies captain is allowed to use newspaper columns to convey his point of view, including controversial ones ... why should we be denied such a forum?" Vengsarkar asked. "Let the game's followers hear both sides — that is fair."

He also said that Sunil Gavaskar had written about the game for years before his recent retirement and had never been challenged. Gavaskar weighed in with a column headlined: "Let Vengsarkar write".

● Richards, meanwhile, bequeathed rather more than the memory of an immense talent in his one-season honeymoon with Rishton, the Lancashire League club. Wilf Woodhouse, the chairman who introduced the West Indies captain to the village club, reported that Rishton's social club income zoomed to a record £18,400.

Home gate receipts quadrupled to £5,400 and the share of pooled gates was £1,130 — 10 times the previous year as Richards pulled in the crowds wherever he swung a bat.

"Not bad for a wet summer," Woodhouse said as the balance sheet at last unveiled the salary paid to Richards — £10,000 — but nevertheless still made Rishton chuckle to the bank.

TODAY'S FIXTURES

7.30 unless stated

Simod Cup
Second round
Swindon v Derby (7.45)

Freight Rover Trophy
Preliminary round, play-off
Grimsby v Scunthorpe

Barclays League
Third division
Bristol C v Fulham (7.45)
Wigan v P Vale (7.45)

Fine Fare Scottish League
Premier division
Rangers v Dunfermline

SMIRNOFF IRISH LEAGUE: Budweiser Floodlit Cup: Final: Glentoran v Coleraine (at Windsor Park, Belfast).
CENTRAL LEAGUE (7.0): First division: Bradford v Sheffield United (7.30); Coventry v Liverpool; Everton v Hull; Sheffield Wednesday v Blackpool. Second division: Oldham v Stoke; Rotherham v Blackburn.
SUNDAY MIRROR COMBINATION (2.0): Fulham v Ipswich; Queen's Park Rangers v Chelsea; Millwall v Charlton.
GM ACCEPTANCE CUP: Third round: Weymouth v Harrow.
NORTHERN PREMIER LEAGUE: Premier division: Chorley v Horwich.
VAUXHALL-OPEL LEAGUE: AC Delco Cup: Third round: Barking v Wembley; Billericay v Bognor; Berkhamsted v Wokingham; Hampton v Carshalton; Hayes v Bromley; Kingsbury v Staines (at Staines); Kingstonian v Bishop's Stortford. First division: Basildon v Grays; Marlow v Boreham Wood; Uxbridge v Woking. Second division north: Aveley v Barton; Finchley v Ware; Hemel Hempstead v Tring; Hertford v Royston; Hornchurch v Harlow; Letchworth GC v Saffron Walden; Tilbury v Haringey. Second division south: Egham v Petersfield; Epsom and Ewell v Horsham; Flackwell v Camberley.
BEAZER HOMES LEAGUE: Westgate Insurance Cup: First round: Merthyr v Trowbridge. Second round: Ashford v Chatham. Midland division: Buckingham v Atherstone; Moor Green v Forest Green. Southern division: Corinthian v Bury.
BASS NORTH WEST COUNTIES LEAGUE: First division: Burscough v St Helens.
FA VASE: Third round replay: Hungerford v Whyteleafe (7.45).
BERKS AND BUCKS SENIOR CUP: First round: Windsor and Eton v Winslow.
HERTFORDSHIRE SENIOR CUP: Second round: St Albans v Watford.
NORTHAMPTONSHIRE SENIOR CUP: Irthlingborough v Rothwell.
STAFFORDSHIRE SENIOR CUP: Second round: Bilston v Eastwood Hanley.
KNIGHT FLOODLIT CUP: Gravesend and Northfleet v Crawley; Witham v Heybridge.

RUGBY UNION

CLUB MATCH: Nottingham v RAF (7.15).

SQUASH RACKETS

AMERICAN EXPRESS PREMIER LEAGUE: First division (6.30): Jim Hall Sports Northern v Poundstretcher Dunnings Mill; James Capel Ardleigh Hall v Central Motors Leicester; InterCity Cannons v Fin Simod Herts; Dewsbury Central v Village Leisure.

OTHER SPORT

BOWLS: Thames TV classic (at Desborough).
BOXING: British light-heavyweight title: Tony Wilson v Blaine Logsden (at Cardiff). Tournaments: Bradford; Swansea leisure centre.
SNOOKER: English championship preliminaries (at Redwood Lodge, Bristol).
TENNIS: Royal Bank Junior boys tournament (at Bisham Abbey); British women's event (at Queen's club, West Kensington).

SPORT ON TV

AMERICAN FOOTBALL: Highlights from America's National Football League. C4: 10 p.m.
BASKETBALL: Prudential Cup final: Kingston v Portsmouth from the Albert Hall. C4: 6 p.m.
BOXING: Seconds Out: Floyd Havard, from Merthyr, defends his unbeaten professional record. ITV: 12 a.m.

VOLLEYBALL

Bracknell braced

By Roddy Mackenzie

Bracknell, from the third division (south) of the English league, have their opportunity of glory this weekend when they face Speedwell Rucanor, the reigning first division champions, in the quarter-finals of the Royal Bank knock-out cup.

The last eight of the competition includes six first division teams and, on paper at least, Bracknell would appear to have little chance of upsetting the Avon side, who have won the competition three times in the last five years.

In this weekend's other quarter-final ties, Liverpool City face Star Aquila, from the second division; Malory, the holders, travel to Staffordshire Moorlands and Dragonara Leeds host Time Out Spark, the first division pacesetters.

In the women's first division, Sale completed their first half of fixtures undefeated by beating Portsmouth Heatseal (3-1) and Speedwell Bristol (3-0) and are also through to the last four of the cup. Internationally, England and Scotland travel to the Pullman Women's Cup in Luxembourg this week together with the Faroe Isles, Iceland and South Korea juniors.

ICE HOCKEY

Whitley Warriors lead for the first time

By Norman de Mesquita

The closest game in another high-scoring weekend was at Solihull, where the Barons, thanks to two late goals by Mayne, edged Whitley Warriors 9-8. But the Warriors bounced back on Sunday with Morrison's seven goals leading them to a convincing home win over Nottingham Panthers which takes them to the top of the premier division for the first time.

Just two points cover the top four teams, and the ever-threatening Durham Wasps are only three more behind in fifth place. The Wasps had the weekend's most convincing win, 20-1 away to Peterborough Pirates, with the home side's goal coming a mere 53 seconds from the end

While suffering two more defeats, Streatham Redskins also found penalty trouble. At Nottingham on Saturday, Goldstone was incensed by a cross-check that caused a 10-stitch cut but went unpunished, and earned a match penalty for seeking retribution. Quiney, in similar mood, was the second Redskin to earn a match penalty, and Mark Didcott, coaching from the bench because of injury, was given a game misconduct

On Sunday, Spours was the third Redskin to earn a match penalty when he objected to the actions of Trueman, of Solihull, and took the law into his own hands.

Five goals in as many minutes early in the third period enabled Medway Bears to inflict a first league defeat of the season on Telford Tigers, with the Lambert brothers — combining for seven goals — and the return, after an 11-game absence, of McNaught, an important ingredient in the Bears' success.

In the north, Cleveland Bombers embarrassed Aviemore Blackhawks once again to prove that this division needs serious attention if it is to retain any credibility.

RESULTS: Heineken League: Premier division: Fife Flyers 9, Ayr Bruins 3; Nottingham Panthers 12, Streatham Redskins 5; Solihull Barons 9, Whitley Warriors 8; Peterborough Pirates 1, Durham Wasps 20; Streatham Redskins 6, Solihull Barons 10; Whitley Warriors 9, Nottingham Panthers 5. First division: Blackpool Seagulls 4, Trafford Metros 15; Cleveland Bombers 33, Aviemore Blackhawks 1; Telford Tigers 7, Medway Bears 14; Glasgow Eagles 3, Kirkcaldy Kestrels 12; Lee Valley Lions 12, Swindon Wildcats 4; Medway Bears 13, Cardiff Devils 5; Richmond Flyers 6, Telford Tigers 24; Southampton Vikings 5, Slough Jets 12; Sunderland Chiefs 5, Cleveland Bomber 9; Trafford Metros 7, Deeside Dragons 1.
MINEX CUP FINAL: First leg: Cardiff Devils 6, Deeside Dragons 3.

RACING: HOBBS BROTHERS POISED TO COMPLETE HEREFORD DOUBLE

Mr Moonraker set for successful return

By Mandarin
(Michael Phillips)

Philip Hobbs, the successful west country trainer, together with his brother Peter, can pull off a family double at Hereford today by winning two of the steeplechases with Mr Moonraker (1.15) and Prize Asset (1.45).

They are not without a chance of winning the third chase either with Lanacre Bridge, but in his case I just prefer Mount Oliver (2.45).

Even on his seasonal debut Mr Moonraker's chance of winning the Cloves Chase is plain to see.

When trained by Les Kennard he took pretty high rank, so much so that he would be giving Pegwell Bay, his principal rival this afternoon, 12lb if this were a handicap rather than a conditions event in which they carry the same weight.

The question is will the lack of a previous race cancel out his class advantage and give the edge to Pegwell Bay, who will be as hard as nails following successive victories at Newbury.

I believe not because Mr Moonraker has shown good form first time out for each of the past two seasons even though he has not actually won. Last year he split Cybrandian and Wayward Lad at Chepstow while the season before he was runner-up to Von Trappe at Cheltenham.

Obviously Pegwell Bay will prove hard to catch especially since his latest form was given a boost on Saturday when Bishops Yarn won.

However, over this distance and especially on the soft ground which suits him so well Mr Moonraker's class should prevail.

Stable companion Prize Asset ran well enough at Warwick first time out when a close fifth in the race won by Burge Pole to suggest that he can win the Caraway Novices' Handicap Chase carrying as little as 10 stone.

Lanacre Bridge will certainly be backed to win the Comfrey Handicap Chase after running third behind Belliver Prince at Towcester. But I still prefer Mount Oliver, who was beaten only a head by Ivor Anthony at Leicester.

No matter how Pegwell Bay fares, his trainer Tim Forster should not leave what is one of his favourite courses empty handed because I think Cona Glen can win the Coriander Handicap Hurdle after finishing a good third to Motivator and Miss Nero at Chepstow.

Kuwait Leel, the conqueror of Gunner Mac at Carlisle, could finish only twelfth behind Royal Gossip at Towcester on Saturday.

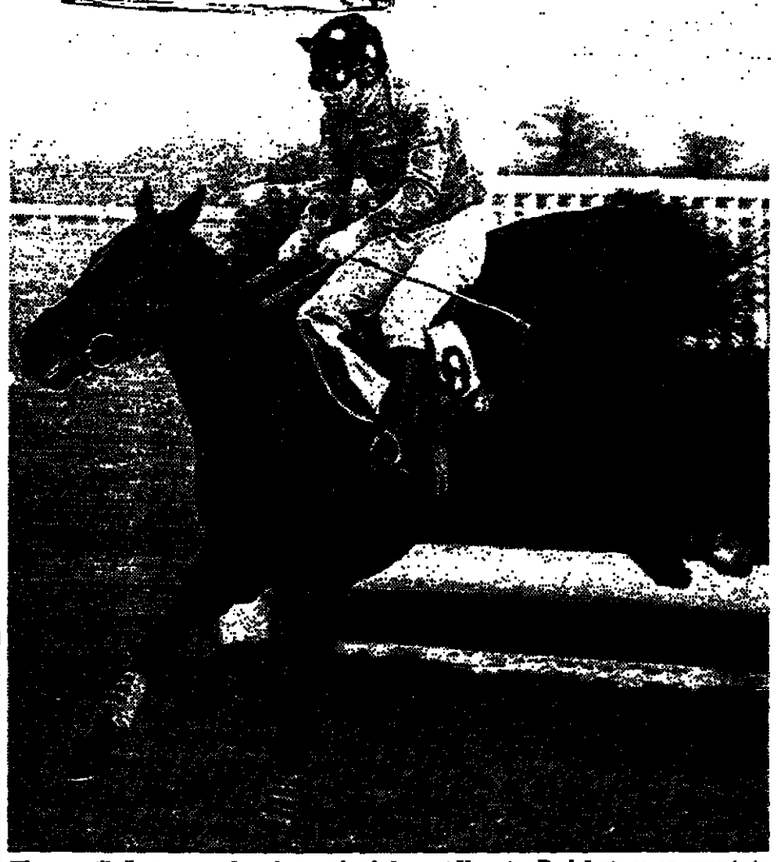
At Plumpton, Quickstep will start at cramped odds to land the Scotts Restaurant Novices' Chase after winning at Newton Abbot first time, more especially since both Hettinger and Whiskey Time fell in their most recent race.

A better bet in my eyes is Guy Harwood's unbeaten four-year-old Vagador to beat Skevena and Prime Number in the Ditchling Novices' Hurdle. He is my nap.

Mr Key, my selection for the Galleano Challenge Cup Handicap Chase, was probably attempting the impossible at Newbury last time out when he failed to give a hefty 20lb to Springholm.

The Railcare Centre Handicap Hurdle will be Great Destiny's first race in a handicap, and after running the highly-rated Deep Treasure to a length at Sandown 11 days ago, when the remainder were well beaten off, this mare will never be so well handicapped again. She is preferred to Averon and Our White Hart.

Team Challenge, a beaten favourite last time, can land the Ray Harland Appreciation Handicap Chase for trainer Jenny Pitman.



The versatile Lector, seen here in a novices' chase at Kempton Park last season, reverts to the smaller obstacles for the Railcare Centre Handicap Hurdle at Plumpton this afternoon

PLUMPTON

Selections
By Mandarin

12.30 Mr Key.
1.00 Great Destiny.
1.30 Quickstep.

2.00 Annaben.
2.30 Team Challenge.
3.00 VAGADOR (nap).

By Michael Seely
1.00 GREAT DESTINY (nap). 3.00 Vagador.
The Times Private Handicapper's top rating: 1.30 QUICKSTEP.

Going: good to soft

12.30 GALLEANO HANDICAP CHASE (£1,970: 2m) (8 runners)

2	5k212-2	PUKKA MAJOR 27 (CD,BF,F,S) (Mrs S Jones) O Sherwood 8-11-10	Mr T Thomson Jones	97
4	22134-2	MR KEY 58 (CD,S) (Mrs E McMahon) D Murray-Smith 8-11-4	P Croucher	85
5	10600-9	MANSTON MARAUDER 7 (CD,F,G,S) (M Smith) P Hodger 11-10-12	Penny Fitch-Heyes (4)	95
7	33F-1111	RAMBLING WILD 22 (S) (P Dash) P Harris 6-10-12	K Mooney	90
8	4-19431	ROSTRA 21 (CD,F,G,S) (Mrs D Plunkett) R Armytage 8-10-10	Mr M Armytage (4)	99
12	PPFU	VAN HAGEN 7 (S) (S Froome) J Bridger 11-10-0	R Goldstein	—

BETTING: 9-4 Rostra, 100-30 Mr Key, 4-1 Pukka Major, 9-2 Rambling Wild, 5-1 Manston Marauder, 33-1 Van Hagen.

1986: STEEL YEOMAN 8-10-7 R Rowe (4-1) J Gifford 13 ran

FORM PUKKA MAJOR (11-12) looked in need of the outing when 10l 2nd to Pommardy (10-12) at Worcester (2m, soft) on reappearance; better judged (11-3) on an easy 20l beating of Grenore Pride (10-0) at Worcester (2m, 22267, heavy, Mar 25, 9 ran).

MR KEY (11-10) far from disgraced on seasonal debut when 10l 2nd to Springholm (10-4) at Newbury (2m 160y, £3649, good, Nov 27, 8 ran).

RAMBLING WILD (10-7) beat Ballichil (12-1) a length at Windsor (2m 40y, £1670, good to soft, Nov 23, 6 ran).

ROSTRA (11-5) got up close home to beat Scale The Heights (10-0) a neck at Wolverhampton (2m, £1970, soft, Nov 24, 6 ran).

Selection: MR KEY

1.0 RAILCARE CENTRE HANDICAP HURDLE (£1,380: 2m) (14 runners)

1	1243-16	KEYNES 46 (CD,BF,G,S) (D Dobson) J Jenkins 7-11-10	S Sherwood	90
2	F1114-	LA GRANDE DAME 236 (S) (T Greer) M Pipe 4-11-0	P Scudamore	98
4	F61-006	DREAM MERCHANT 16 (CD,F,S) (L Foswell) R O'Sullivan 5-10-12	M Kinane	85
6	33216F	LECTOR 49 (S,CD,F,G) (J Joseph) D Elsworth 6-10-6	S Coulon (7)	—
7	3F-5238	PIP 22 (D,F) (S Pelatowe) S Woodman 7-10-8	M Perrett	90
9	6003-60	AVERON 26 (S) (C Widmore) C Widmore 7-10-5	M Bosley	86
10	013002	OUR WHITE HART 8 (D,F,S) (Mrs B Short) K Bailey 7-10-5	P Croucher	87
12	60-1612	MANHATTAN BOY 36 (CD,F,G,S) (Mrs D Hunnisett) J F-Heyes 5-10-1	Penny F-Heyes (4)	89
14	6-2112	GREAT DESTINY 11 (D,G,S) (Mrs D Bravery) C Bravery 5-10-1	—	89
15	04P-000	CAPISTRANO PRINCE 8 (CD,F) (F Gray) F Gray 5-10-0	E Murphy	85
18	240-000	THAMES TRADER 36 (S) (Mrs J Seal) Mrs L Clay 6-10-0	Miss A Harwood (7)	80
19	11P-F6F	GENERALISE 35 (S) (J Browne Construction) G Thorner 5-10-0	J White	82
22	P01/P-6P	RUSSOLA 14 (F) (E Smith) N Smith 5-10-0	Mr M Wellings	—
23	0400/0-0	FORTOLD 42 (D,F,S) (G Wareham) G Wareham 9-10-0	E McKinley (4)	—

BETTING: 7-2 Our White Hart, 9-2 La Grande Dame, 5-1 Lector, 11-2 Great Destiny, 7-1 Manhatten Boy, 8-1 Keynes, 10-1 Averon, 12-1 Pip, 14-1 others.

1986: METMAN 5-10-8 B de Haan (11-10 fav) Mrs J Pitman 8 ran

FORM KEYNES (10-6) beat Oryx Minor (10-7) 1¼l at Newbury (2m 100yd, £3469, good, Oct 23, 15 ran) with OUR WHITE HEART (10-5) 3rd, beaten 1¼l.

LA GRANDE DAME (11-7) 6¼l 4th to New Gold Dream (10-8) at Cheltenham (2m 4f, £2464, hard, Apr 23, 12 ran).

PIP (10-9) 3l 3rd to Man O'Magic (11-12) at Wincanton (2m, £1730, soft, Nov 12, 10 ran).

MANHATTAN BOY (10-10) 2l 2nd to Musical Mystery (11-7) over course and distance (£1380, soft, Nov 9, 11 ran). THAMES TRADER (10-6) 6th, beaten 32l.

GREAT DESTINY (11-3) mistake at last when a length 2nd to Deep Treasure (11-0) at Sandown (2m, £3258, good, Dec 4, 17 ran).

Selection: LA GRANDE DAME

1.30 SCOTTS RESTAURANT NOVICE CHASE (£1,646: 2m) (10 runners)

1	6-11UF	HETTINGER 12 (CD,S) (Miss L Quick) J Fitch-Heyes 7-11-13	Penny Fitch-Heyes (4)	90
2	11200-1	QUICKSTEP 14 (S) (M Pipe) M Pipe 6-11-11	P Scudamore	99
3	U41F0/3-	CENTAUR SONG 487 (F) (Mrs V O'Brien) H O'Neill 7-11-4	G McCourt	—
9	40/0450	JONDX 12 (Mrs S Wise) J Gifford 8-11-4	R Rowe	85
11	P0P	LOYAL KESTREL 88 (N Scotland) D Grissell 8-11-4	R Goldstein	—
17	PF6-FP4	UP AT DAWN 7 (E Treacy) J Bridger 7-11-4	P Cooney (7)	89
18	32/131-F	WHISKEY TIME 12 (BF,F,G) (H Solomons) J Jenkins 7-11-4	S Sherwood	—
21	323-0UP	SOLSTICE BELL 22 (Mrs H Kilburn) R Voorspuy 5-10-13	M Furlong	—
22	238-0FP	VENETIAN PRINCESS 7 (Mrs J Peel) A Moore 5-10-13	G Moore	80
23	9-23304	DARK HERITAGE 22 (J Guest) D Murray-Smith 4-10-7	P Croucher	—

BETTING: Evens Quickstep, 4-1 Whiskey Time, 5-1 Dark Heritage, 8-1 Centaur Song, 10-1 Jondx, 12-1 Hettinger, 20-1 others.

1986: OUR WHITE HART 6-11-0 C Cox (12-1) N Vigors 15 ran

FORM HETTINGER has failed to complete the course on last two starts, on seasonal debut (11-0) landed a hefty gamble when beating Noble Eyre (11-0) a length here (2m, £1941, soft, Nov 9, 15 ran) with JONDX (11-0) back in 10th.

QUICKSTEP (10-10) made a winning chasing debut when beating Bright Intervals (10-10) an easy 6l at Newton Abbot (2m 150y, £2711, soft, Dec 1, 14 ran).

CENTAUR SONG (11-6) not seen out since Aug 1986 when 19l 3rd to Tin Boy (11-6) here (2m, £1433, hard, 9 ran).

JONDX (10-10) weakened from the last when 5½l 4th to Benge Pole (10-10) at Warwick (2m, £2380, good, Dec 3, 17 ran) with WHISKEY TIME (10-10) a fifth fence casualty.

Selection: QUICKSTEP

2.0 HENFIELD CONDITIONAL JOCKEYS SELLING HANDICAP HURDLE (£745: 2m) (10 runners)

1	4/00022-	DRAGONADE 287 (J Blackshaw) A Moore 6-11-10	A Charlton	95
2	0-32002	NAMOOS 36 (BF) (F Hill) A Moore 8-11-9	J Clark	92
3	10402/0	CLASSIC OWEN 11 (F) (J Brough) P Howling 6-11-7	G Webster	—
6	000P-34	ANOTHER BING 36 (Miss B Fetching) A Moore 5-10-12	J Osborne	89
10	00/0P-2	SPRINGDALE STAR 20 (Miss B Lance) P Hedger 6-10-11	I Shoemark	88
11	3/P0P	SAGARENNA 36 (K Butler & Co Ltd) W Kemp 5-10-9	T Stamer	—
12	P0322	ANNABEN 10 (M Williams) W G M Turner 4-10-8	K Taylor	99
17	0/P0-000	ANDROMAHOS 14 (N Pay) B Stevens 5-10-7	—	96
18	P0/4P-	PEADAR'S STROKE 302 (Miss Z Davison) G Gracey 5-10-7	P Cooney	—
20	P0040-P	ROBERT FROST 20 (C Harvey) G Gracey 5-10-7	M Cassidy	—

BETTING: 15-8 Dragonade, 7-2 Springdale Star, 4-1 Namoos, 9-2 Another Bing, 5-1 Annaben, 14-1 others.

1986: SOME MOOR 6-10-3 W Irvine (7-1) R Hodges 12 ran

FORM DRAGONADE (11-4) beat Bride (10-5) 1¾l in novices event over course and distance (£685, heavy, Mar 3, 15 ran).

NAMOOS (11-10) 2nd, beaten 8l, to Polecroft (10-9) with ANOTHER BING (11-3) 6l 4th and ANDROMAHOS (10-8) pulled up (£735, soft, Nov 9, 11 ran).

ANNABEN caught on line at Chepstow (2m 4f, £683, soft, Dec 5, 10 ran) when (10-9) beaten ½l by Inger-Las (10-8).

PEADAR'S STROKE only form first time out last season when (11-9) 17l 4th to Haddon Lad (10-12) at Hereford (2m, £530, good to firm, Aug 30, 6 ran).

Selection: ANNABEN

2.30 RAY HARLAND APPRECIATION HANDICAP CHASE (£2,057: 3m 1f) (9 runners)

2	1614-PP	AUGHRA BOURA 27 (C,F,G,S) (Mrs L Simpson) J Gifford 11-11-10	R Rowe	95
3	1330-P1	CHOICE OF CRITICS 24 (CD,F,S) (E Rabbit) R Akehurst 11-11-10	L Harvey	91
5	0423-40	MAJUBA ROAD 52 (BF,G,S) (D Wright) J Fitch-Heyes 7-11-4	R Goldstein	83
8	331-022	TEAM CHALLENGE 17 (BF,G) (Mrs E Hitchings) Mrs J Pitman 5-10-11	Mr M Pitman	94
7	24330-0	DEBT FOLLOWER 16 (F) (R Gibbins) M Wickman 9-10-9	C Maine	99
9	1	BORENCO 213 (F) (S M Demolition Kent Ltd) W Kemp 6-10-8	S Shilston	85
10	1P0/F0-0	CONCLUSIVE 11 (F) (R Steel) Miss E Sneyd 8-10-9	—	—
14	20303-P	VALMAI 17 (R Ledger) R Ledger 8-10-0	Mrs N Ledger	92
15	PP0P-P2	PRIDE O'FIFE 35 (S,CD,F,G,S) (J H Amusements Ltd) Mrs L Clay 9-10-0	M Perrett	92

BETTING: 2-1 Team Challenge, 7-2 Choice Of Critics, 4-1 Majuba Road, 6-1 Aughra Boura, 8-1 Borenco, 10-1 Debt Follower, 12-1 others.

1986: FRENCH CAPTAIN 10-10-10 M Kinane (5-2 fav) Lady Herries 6 ran

FORM CHOICE OF CRITICS (10-0) returned to best latest start when beating Steel Yeoman (10-1) a neck at Folkestone (3m 2f, £3856, good to soft, Nov 21, 7 ran).

MAJUBA ROAD (11-0) last successful over fences when beating Palatinate (10-0) 5l at Huntingdon (2m 200y, £1832, good, Nov 26, 7 ran).

TEAM CHALLENGE (10-11) one pace from two out when 10l 2nd to Aquiller (11-0) at Towcester (3m 190y, £2323, soft, Nov 28, 10 ran) with VALMAI (10-2) pulled up.

DEBT FOLLOWER (11-6) last showed best when 18l 3rd to Young Blood (10-5) at Southwell (3m 110y, £2259, soft, Mar 16, 16 ran).

BORENCO (11-11) beat Bold Revenge (11-7) 5l in a hunter chase at Downpatrick (3m, £740, firm, May 16, 8 ran).

Selection: DEBT FOLLOWER

3.0 DITCHLING NOVICE HURDLE (£685: 2m) (18 runners)

1	11	VAGADOR 17 (G,S) (Mrs G Harwood) G Harwood 4-11-10	M Perrett	99
2	13	PRIME NUMBER 12 (D,S) (S Widdon) R Armytage 4-11-5	Miss G Armytage	76
3	0-1110	SKEVENA 55 (BF,F,G) (W Mullins) D Elsworth 4-11-5	P Holley (7)	81
5	00	BLUSHING SPY 18 (S) (Amity Finance Ltd) R Akehurst 4-11-0	D McKeown	—
7	0PF-0	BROWN GAMBLER 22 (Mrs A Lawe) R Armytage 5-11-0	A Gorman	—
9	030	COMMON ACCORD 22 (S) (S Powell) S Woodman 4-11-0	P Scudamore	86
11	P/0P2-0	DUELLING 106 (V) (C Holmes) C Holmes 6-11-0	C Mann	82
12	062/00	EAGLE MOSS 7 (M Pope) A Moore 5-11-0	G Moore	57
15	U0	HEAVENLY BROTHER 19 (F) (F Gray) F Gray 4-11-0	E Murphy	—
17	00	MOUNT SCHEHALLION 31 (Mrs E Martin) Mrs J Croft 4-11-0	S Moore	—
19	F	NEVER A PENNY 24 (J Mooney) J Elliott 4-11-0	Mrs C Elliott	—
22	0	SAALIS 31 (S) (S Sharp) R Akehurst 4-11-0	L Harvey	—
24	0	SILVER DRAGON 17 (D Hunnisett) R Smyth 4-11-0	I Shoemark (7)	—
25	0P-	SUPERCOOMBE 282 (A Burnham) P Butler 4-11-0	M Furlong	—
26		THE SPORTSMAN (Mrs D Woollard) J Fitch-Heyes 4-11-0	R Goldstein	—
30		BY CHANCE (R Biggs) C Wildman 4-10-9	M Bosley	—
31	00	CHARLOTTE BONNIE 14 (J Pannett) J Pannett 5-10-9	Penny Fitch-Heyes (4)	—
34	0P-	TARAHUMARA 301 (Southern Caravan) J Gifford 5-10-9	P Hobbs	—

BETTING: 1-2 Vagador, 4-1 Skevena, 7-1 Prime Number, 10-1 Tarahumara, 12-1 Silver Dragon, 14-1 others.

1986: KEYNES 6-11-10 S Sherwood (4-1) J Jenkins 17 ran

FORM VAGADOR (11-7) beat Green Willow (11-0) 3l at Newbury (2m 100yd, £2041, good, Nov 28, 19 ran) with SILVER DRAGON (11-0) out of first 9.

PRIME NUMBER (11-3) 5l 3rd to dead-heaters Melandrin (10-10) and Vincanto (10-10) at Warwick last time (2m, £681, good, Dec 3, 24 ran).

Earlier PRIME NUMBER (10-10) beat Hymn Of Harlech (10-10) 3l at Wincanton (2m, £1136, soft, Nov 12, 15 ran) with COMMON ACCORD (10-10) 3rd, beaten 12l.

SKEVENA, favourite when (11-3) 22l 6th to Tebbito (11-4) at Cheltenham (2m, £1688, good to soft, Oct 21, 18 ran), previously (11-3) beat Kentucky Guest (11-0) 15l at Devon (2m 1f, £948, good, Sep 23, 12 ran).

BLUSHING SPY (11-0) in contention a long way before weakening when 6th, beaten 10½l, to Waterside Lodge (11-6) at Leicester (2m, £1152, heavy, Nov 27, 15 ran).

Selection: VAGADOR

Course specialists

TRAINERS

	Winners	Runners	Per cent
R Akehurst	10	25	38.5
Mrs J Pitman	5	18	27.8
R Smyth	3	11	27.3
M Pipe	7	26	26.9
R O'Sullivan	6	23	26.1
J Jenkins	10	57	17.5

JOCKEYS

	Winners	Rides	Per cent
M Pitman	4	13	30.8
T Thomson Jones	5	18	27.8
M Kinane	9	39	23.1

Only qualifiers

HEREFORD

Selections
By Mandarin

12.15 Khattaf.
12.45 Forgiving.
1.15 Mr Moonraker.

1.45 Prize Asset.
2.15 Tuns Hill.
2.45 Mount Oliver.
3.15 Cona Glen.

Michael Seely's selection: 1.15 Mr Moonraker.

Going: soft

12.15 COLTSFOOT NOVICES HURDLE (3-Y-O: £981: 2m) (17 runners)

3	10	PRINCEABLE LADY 36 (D) (R Graham) N Gaselee 11-2	S Powell	94
5	2	BIRWAZ 11 (H Bishop) B Stevens 11-0	S Moore	97
6		CHESTER TERRACE (J Livock) D Tucker 11-0	S McNeill	—
12	0	GERUNTY 17 (J Short) J King 11-0	G Jones	—
14		GO GRAFTON 16 (Mrs M Bayliss) G H Jones 11-0	D Morris (4)	—
18	0	ICARUS 11 (J Livock) D Tucker 11-0	C Llewellyn (4)	98
20	4	KHATTAF 16 (W Stort) J Old 11-0	C Jones	—
21	0	MOVE ABOUT 18 (T Parrott) Mrs H Parrott 11-0	Mr L Lay (7)	—
23		MR MAJINTY (Mrs S Greathead) T Greathead 11-0	R Dunwoody	—
26	00	RED TIMBER 8 (M West) D Nicholson 11-0	D J Burchell (7)	—
28		SPRINGING SIDNEY (D Burchell) D Burchell 11-0	S Keightley	—
31		WORTHY PRINCE (W O'Callaghan) J Payne 11-0	R Arnott	—
34	P	CINDERELLA DEREK 18 (M Hill) M Hill 10-9	N Coleman	93
36	300	JOSIE SMITH 8 (C Scott) R Holder 10-9	—	96
37	33	QUEEN MATILDA 17 (BF) (D Stokes) D Jermy 10-9	—	—
38		SALFORD RAPHAELLA (Salford Van Hire Ltd) F Yardley 10-5	Tracy Tizzer (7)	88
42	280	VALVERDE 8 (C Pastor) W G Turner 10-9	—	—

BETTING: 5-2 Khattaf, 7-2 Birwaz, 4-1 Princeable Lady, 5-1 Queen Matilda, 8-1 Josie Smith, 10-1 Valverde, 12-1 others.

1986: CAPULET 11-0 P Scudamore (13-8 fav) C James 17 ran

12.45 COWSLIP CONDITIONAL JOCKEYS SELLING HURDLE (£741: 2m) (11 runners)

1	000/00P-	AESCULAPIUS 382 (D,F,S) (R Griffiths) R Griffiths 6-11-8	—	—
7	03/00-P0	BASSIN 14 (V) (M Endicott) D Tucker 5-10-12	D Morris	—
9	4000	DOLBEN BOY 28 (S) (S Owen) P Pritchard 6-10-12	N Fenn	98
11	4666-6	GOLDEN BAYARD 26 (Mrs N Asbell) T Caldwell 5-10-12	S Woods	—
12	00/0-000	HARTBURN REBEL 53 (S) (W Moss) J Smith 6-10-12	S Davies	—
13	0231/P0	LION AND LAMB 45 (F) (Mrs S Polston) Miss S Wilson 5-10-12	D J Burchell	—
21	FP	APPRECIATIVE 36 (S) (A Williams) D Burchell 4-10-7	C Wiley	—
24	300-	FISSURE 236 (S Johnson) D White 4-10-7	W Hayes	99
25	000000-	FORGIVING 234 (Mrs T Brookhouse) Mrs S Oliver 5-10-7	D Tegg	—
27		KATHIES CHOICE 19 (J Dunkerton) J Bradley 4-10-7	P Johnson	90
31	00-P000	SEASKILL 10 (S) (Mrs A Holly) D Holly 4-10-7	—	—

BETTING: 10-11 Fissure, 4-1 Dolben Boy, 6-1 Golden Bayard, 8-1 Kathies Choice, 12-1 Forgiving, 14-1 Seaskill, 16-1 others.

1986: TOPALLUKARI-MOU 6-10-2 J Lower (2-1) M Pipe 11 ran

1.15 CLOVES CHASE (£2,085: 2m 3f) (7 runners)

5	010/1U/1	ENERGISE 19 (C,D,F,G,S) (R Turvey) C Popham 9-11-5	B Powell	57
6	6P3-303	GRINGO 67 (F) (R Brown) J Honeybell 8-11-5	Peter Hobbs	99
7	432/24-	MR MOONRAKER 237 (C,S) (Mrs P Blackburn) P Hobbs 10-11-5	H Davies	88
8	4TU2-11	PEGWELL BAY 16 (D) (Maj A Barlow) T Forster 6-11-5	D Tegg (7)	58
9	F1-P56F	ROCK CANDY 8 (G) (Mrs P Jones) Mrs P Jones 11-11-5	—	—
10	3160P/P	DREAM VENTURE 39 (S,G) (R Morris) R Morris 7-10-2	C Llewellyn (4)	53
15	R3/14-6F	KADELIAN 19 (G) (V King) W Price 8-10-2	—	—

BETTING: 6-4 Mr Moonraker, 2-1 Pegwell Bay, 5-1 Energise, 10-1 Rock Candy, 12-1 Gringo, 20-1 Kadelian, 33-1 Dream Venture.

1986: MALYA MAL 7-11-5 P Scudamore (15-8) F Winter 7 ran

1.45 CARAWAY NOVICES HANDICAP CHASE (£2,008: 2m) (13 runners)

1	18-0109	AROUND TOWN 14 (F,G) (P Purdy) B Forsey 6-11-13	C Llewellyn (4)	89
2	10-P614	HARLEY STREET MAN 21 (D,F,G) (J Poole) C Jackson 6-11-5	—	87
3	300F-P2	NEARLY A PINE 115 (BF,G) (Mrs P Blackburn) D Handcock 7-11-4	S Smith Eccles	85
5	600-300	JOLLY MARINER 29 (Micro Precision Metalwork Ltd) P Ransom 7-11-1	R Baggan	88
8	04/0P3-2	SCALE THE HEIGHTS 21 (P Buckley) K White 8-10-9	D Cullen	82
10	32F30F	FIB 19 (S,F) (Mrs S Greathead) T Greathead 5-10-6	A Gorman	—
11	F30	PEACE WALK 8 (G) (J Needham) J Needham 12-10-1	D Browne	—
12	03/PF-06	HOMEOLA 36 (G) (R Mann) Mrs M Rimmell 6-10-0	—	—
13	6U300F-	DREAMCOAT 265 (S) (D Goodenough) K Bishop 6-10-0	Peter Hobbs	99
16	0008/F-0	PRIZE ASSET 12 (Mrs C James) P Hobbs 7-10-0	S McNeill	—
17	P06/F0	CORNIB MASTER 12 (M O'Connor) J King 6-10-0	B Powell	91
18	3F3-044	PATRALAN 14 (S Barrington) Mrs M Bevan 5-10-0	—	—
19	04-1002	MONTERASSO 19 (G) (R Osborne) R Hodges 5-10-0	—	—

BETTING: 3-1 Prize Asset, 4-1 Nearly A Pine, 9-2 Scale The Heights, 5-1 Harley Street Man, 15-2 Flb, 9-1 Around Town, 10-1 Parralan, 14-1 Monterasso, 16-1 others.

1986: (5-Y-O) TROUVERE 8-10 W Knox (7-2) D Burchell 11 ran

Guide to our in-line racecard

103 0-0432 TIMESFORM 74 (CD,BF,F,G,S) (Mrs D Robinson) B Hall 9-10-0 — B West (4) 88

Racecard number. Six-figure form (F-fell. P-pulled up. U-unseated rider. B-brought down. S-slipped up. R-refused). Horse's name. Days since last outing. (B-blinkers. V-visor. H-hood. E-Eyeshield. C-course winner. D-distance winner. CD-course and distance winner. BF-beaten favourite in latest race). Going on which horse has won (F-firm, good to firm, hard. G-good. S-soft, good to soft, heavy). Owner in brackets. Trainer. Age and weight. Rider plus any allowance. The Times Private Handicapper's rating.

2.15 WIN WITH THE TOTE MAIDEN HURDLE (£1,272: 2m 3f) (18 runners)

1	0/00-	ABBEYDORE 376 (G Powell) G Powell 5-11-7	—	—
3		ALADIA (R Brown) Mrs S Oliver 5-11-7	W Hayes (7)	—
4	0U4F	APODEMUS 11 (BF) (N Lilley) R Lee 6-11-7	B Dowling	—
6		BURNING LIGHT (Mrs J Trendell) T Casey 5-11-7	R Dunwoody	—
8		FARM-LEE (C Donald) K Bailey 5-11-7	—	—
11	00	GENERAL SILVERSIDE 19 (G Green) Mrs S Oliver 6-11-7	R Hyett	—
13	PP/0	KEEP FIGHTING 22 (Mrs P Alderson) M Scudamore 5-11-7	A Sharpe	—
14	0	LATE DELIVERY 12 (D Kench) K Bridgwater 5-11-7	A Webb	—
21	0/30-0	SPARTAN RAFT 19 (J Andrews) G Prest 5-11-7	A Gorman	—
22	40-U0	SPEARHEAD WARRIOR 58 (P Buckley) K White 5-11-7	—	—
23	00	THE EARL ENRICO 10 (A Taylor) A Taylor 5-11-7	Mr A Taylor	—
24	0304	TUNS HILL 21 (S Escott) R Dickin 5-11-7	—	97
25	PP/	WOBBLER 509 (Miss A Bucknall) C Popham 5-11-7	—	—
26		BEAMING ANNE (S O'Sullivan) C Popham 7-11-2	B Powell	—
27	00/04-	CANT GO WRONG 258 (Miss J Hadley) M Oliver 6-11-2	E Buckley	99
29	P	CORRECT GIRL 13 (Miss S Bradbury) W Mann 5-11-2	S J O'Neill	—
30	00-0	DISTRESS CALL 19 (R Jones) S Cole 6-11-2	C Llewellyn (4)	—
36		WUGBY (S Burton) T Casey 5-11-2	—	—

BETTING: 9-4 Cant Go Wrong, 5-2 Tuns Hill, 4-1 General Silverside, 6-1 Alaoui, 8-1 Apodemus, 10-1 Burning Light, 14-1 others.

1986: NO CORRESPONDING RACE

2.45 COMFREY HANDICAP CHASE (£2,851: 3m 1f) (18 runners)

2	P1TF1-0	GERAMI 22 (F,G) (R McAlpine) J Edwards 7-11-10	T Morgan	88
4	2122-F4	RIG STEEL 10 (CD,F,G,S) (R Robbins) P Cundell 7-11-7	R Strange	98
5	6/001-02	MOUNT OLIVER 16 (CD,F,G,S) (D Smith) M Scudamore 9-11-5	A Sharpe	99
6	12P43/P-	LARRY'S HAT 259 (Mal-Gen R Burgess) P Bailey 9-11-2	B Powell	—
7	01452-2F	CONEY GLEN 13 (CD,F,G,S) (Mrs D Joyce) V Bishop 11-11-0	H Davies	96
9	P0UP-UP	NOTRE CHEVAL 13 (CD,S) (Mrs J Morris) J Honeybell 8-11-0	—	88
11	F03/314	TROOP THE COLOUR 21 (BF,G) (M Dooley) D Nicholson 7-10-11	R Dunwoody	89
12	0-UPHU3	LANACRE BRIDGE 17 (BLF) (R Wright) P Hobbs 10-10-11	Peter Hobbs	93
13	14-320F	SUPER EXPRESS 20 (G,S) (S Williams) D Barons 6-10-11	P Nicholls	95
14	1P0PP/P	FUZZEN HILL 12 (G,S) (Lord Vestey) J King 8-10-11	S McNeill	—
18	44P1P-P	WOODLANDS LAD 17 (D,S) (P Pritchard) P Pritchard 12-10-6	D Chinn	97
19	34-6301	ALICE'S BOY 28 (S) (Mrs S Roberts) R Francis 8-10-6	S Smith Eccles	96
20	P0/13-30	GIOLLA WAY 19 (F,G) (D Seward) D Gandolfo 8-10-5	S Smith Eccles	89
22	404/044	MONRICE 53 (F,G,S) (S Hartery) M Pipe 9-10-5	J Lower	82
23	0P-604R	SALLY TASK 22 (G,S) (S Llewellyn) B Llewellyn 11-10-1	—	89
25	F-4PP0F	CATHY'S PAL 19 (C Kyme) J Clugg 7-10-0	A Webb	—
26	2/P2U22-	DE FUNYMEL 265 (D,S) (J Andrews) G Prest 14-10-0	A Gorman	92
29	00FF/00	PRINCE VIDAR 46 (Miss P Neal) Miss P Neal 8-10-0	A Webb	—

BETTING: 4-1 Troop The Colour, 5-1 Rig Steel, 13-2 Coney Glen, 7-1 Alice's Boy, 8-1 Mount Oliver, 9-1 Giolla Way, 10-1 Lanacre Bridge, 12-1 Super Express, Woodlands Lad, 14-1 others.

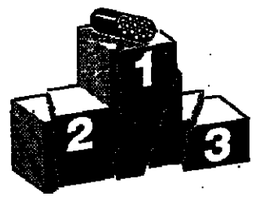
1986: NOTRE CHEVAL 7-10-8 P Hobbs (5-1) J Honeybell 11 ran

3.15 CORIANDER HANDICAP HURDLE (£1,413: 3m 1f) (17 runners)

3	12-0048	ARBITRAGE 19 (S) (D Bay) S Forsey 5-11-10	—	97
5	1402-09	EN GOUMASI THEON 19 (S) (Mrs M Scow) G Doidge 6-11-5	P Holley (7)	88
6	410800	BRONZE EFFIGY 10 (C,G,S) (Mrs R Henriques) M Henriques 5-11-6	C Llewellyn (4)	91
8	00-0483	CONA GLEN 19 (S) (Lady McGowan) T Forster 5-11-1	H Davies	94
11	121F000	LITTLE LONDON 21 (B,CD,F,G) (T Morton) T Morton 8-10-13	—	93
12	112-016	KUWAIT LEEL 3 (S) (J Wilcox) F Jordan 5-10-13 (7ex)	—	89
14	0003P/1	ATKINS 35 (CD,S) (L Fuller) G Enright 8-10-10	T Pinfield (7)	92
15	0PP-000	CELTIC FLEET 16 (B,CD,S) (R Beswick) J Spearing 6-10-8	Miss G Armytage	92
16	000/031-	MEDES 238 (S) (W Price) W Price 6-10-8	A Price (7)	89
18	6P04-63	DOUGHTY

British administrators taking an ambivalent stance towards drug abuse in the close-knit world of athletics

Covering up the family secret

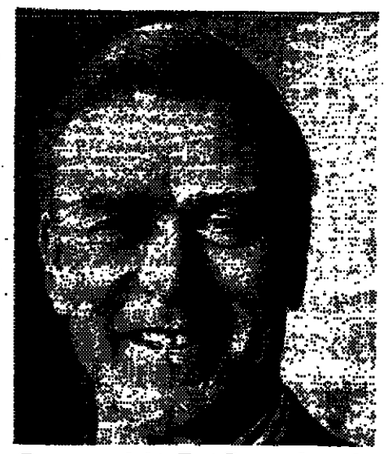


The fight by sport, particularly athletics, against drug-takers has been gaining momentum. Improved methods of detecting drugs, increased and random testing, greater awareness of the dangers, and statements of bold intent have all encouraged a belief that athletics in Britain is relatively "clean". The reality is different.

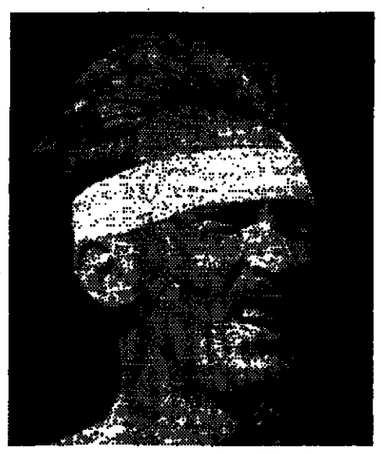
The Times today begins an investigation by **Pat Butcher** and **Peter Nichols** into the international and national cover-up



Gasser: only athlete tested positive in Rome



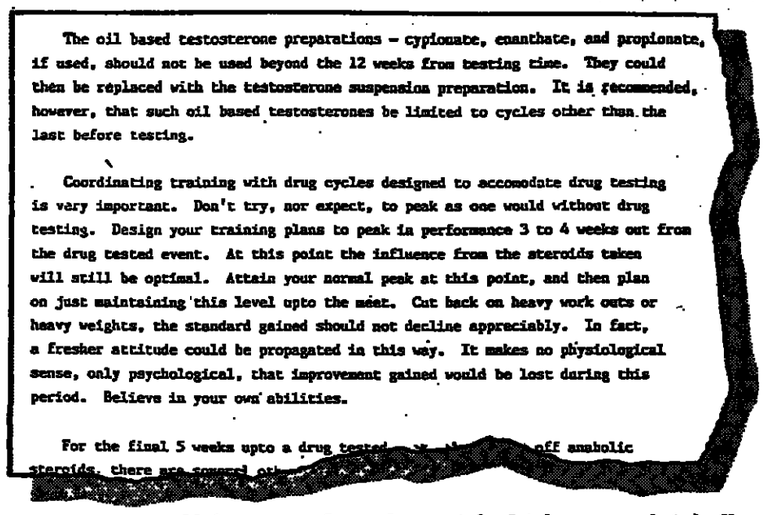
Cooper: acceded to East German demands



Vainio: famous case of disqualification



Stinson: tacit assurance against testing



The oil based testosterone preparations - cypionate, enanthate, and propionate, if used, should not be used beyond the 12 weeks from testing time. They could then be replaced with the testosterone suspension preparation. It is recommended, however, that such oil based testosterones be limited to cycles other than the last before testing.

Coordinating training with drug cycles designed to accomodate drug testing is very important. Don't try, nor expect, to peak as one would without drug testing. Design your training plans to peak in performance 3 to 4 weeks out from the drug tested event. At this point the influence from the steroids taken will still be optimal. Attain your normal peak at this point, and then plan on just maintaining this level upto the meet. Cut back on heavy work outs or heavy weights, the standard gained should not decline appreciably. In fact, a fresher attitude could be propagated in this way. It makes no physiological sense, only psychological, that improvement gained would be lost during this period. Believe in your own abilities.

For the final 5 weeks upto a drug tested [illegible] off anabolic steroids, there are several oth[illegible]

The cheat's charter: this is an extract from a document circulated anonymously to leading American athletes a month ago. It is an A to Z of current drugs philosophy. Six pages long, it details every aspect of drug use; the latest available, the best methods of application, how to incorporate drug-taking into training schedules and how to avoid detection

When a positive test is irrelevant

Lars Nilsen, the Norwegian shot putter, was tested positive in April. Nilsen, at Methodist Southern University, was taken by surprise when a Norwegian Federation testing team called on him in Dallas. The test showed traces of the drug methandienone and Nilsen has been banned for two years by the International Amateur Athletic Federation.

Nilsen, fifth in the 1986 European championship, is unable to compete for Norway, but can represent his college. Frank Uryasz, director of sports sciences at the National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA) confirmed this to *The Times*. "Tests must be done under NCAA guidelines," Uryasz said. "We do not recognize tests by other sports bodies."

But the NCAA testing is hardly thorough. When they tried to introduce random testing for college sport, Stanford University took the issue to court, saying there was no cause and had it thrown out for 24 out of 26 sports. The University of Washington is is undertaking similar litigation: and Nilsen, a proven drug-taker, continues to compete for SMU.

How to catch a cheat red-handed

Martii Vainio, of Finland, has been the most famous drug disqualification in athletics. Vainio finished second in the Los Angeles Olympic 10,000 metres, but relinquished his silver medal to Mike McLeod, of Britain, when anabolic steroids were found in his urine.

That was Vainio's second positive drug test, another occurring in April 1984 at the Rotterdam marathon. That result was hushed up. In Los Angeles the Finn might have escaped, too, except that he was also blood-doping, another transgression. When an athlete blood-dopes, a quantity of blood is removed from the body approximately two months before competition and reinfused a day or two before to build up the number of red cells, which transport the body's oxygen.

Before the removal of his blood, Vainio had taken steroids. He stopped in plenty of time before the Olympics for the drug traces to clear from his body. Yet Vainio's cheating was discovered as he forgot about the steroids in the blood that he was putting back. The Finn's suspension lasted only 18 months.

Repeated contentions by the administrators of British athletics that they are leading the world in the fight against drug abuse are not borne out after an investigation by *The Times* in the three months since the world championships in Rome.

The championships were the centrepiece of the year, with some of the best competition ever seen. But even performances such as Ben Johnson's world 100-metres record could not mask the rumours and innuendo of drug-taking which circulated among the athletics "family".

Carl Lewis orchestrated the early scenes. Within 24 hours of his defeat by Johnson, Lewis had pointed the finger at fellow-athletes in an ITV interview. The fire was fuelled by the news that Sue Howland, an Australian javelin-thrower, had failed a drug test in Belfast in July, although she was in Rome and ready to compete. And there were rumours that a number of the American team had been positively tested for the drug Probenicid while competing in the Pan-American Games, just before the world championships. Probenicid, an old-fashioned gout cure, blocks the seepage of illegal steroid traces into an athlete's urine, which is used for the drug test.

During the championships, the International Amateur Athletic Federation (IAAF) stayed silent. Only at a Press conference on September 7, the day after the championships, did it announce the names of nine athletes found guilty during the year of drug-taking. Dr Primo Nebiolo, the IAAF president, maintained that, in the world championships, there had been no positives *up to and including* the penultimate day, Saturday.

Nebiolo's statement proved to be false. Four weeks later it was announced that Sandra Gasser, the Swiss runner who was third in the 1500 metres, had tested positive on the Saturday in Rome. Gasser thus earned the dubious distinction of being the first and only athlete ever to supply a positive test in a world championships.

However, one positive in Rome was not enough to dispel the doubts. Dr Robert Voy, chief medical officer for the United States Olympic Committee (USOC), was one of the most cynical. "I don't know whether they threw the samples down the sink or what," he said. Dr Voy, who appears to be one of the few people speaking up against drug abuse in the United States, has cause to be cynical.

In 1981, the Ben Plucknett, a US discus-thrower, was found positive at the Pacific Conference Games and banned for 18 months. The Athletic Congress (TAC), the governing body for American athletics, not only failed to censure Plucknett, but, subsequent to the IAAF ban, voted him its Athlete of the Year.

At the 1983 Pan-Am Games in Caracas, 13 American track and field athletes flew home after they had discovered that the drug-testing laboratory was rather too well equipped.

Following that embarrassment, and in order to collect information for the setting up of the first drug-testing centre in the United States, for the Los Angeles Olympics the next year, the USOC instituted a voluntary and anonymous testing service. But it was closed down early when the USOC realized the athletes were using it to find out when they would be "clean" for competition.

But disclosures in Europe after the world championships went beyond rumour and innuendo. The morning after the final day in Rome, the West German magazine, *Der Spiegel*, published a long article on the death of Birgit Dressel, a heptathlete, five months earlier. *Der Spiegel* alleged that Armin Klumper, a Freiburg specialist, had administered some 400 injections to the young woman, some of which had included introducing live animal cells into Dressel's body. Klumper made a complaint to the magazine and has taken no further action.

In France, *L'Equipe* published an attack on Carmen Hodos, a decathlon coach, alleging that she recommended anabolic steroids for her athletes, and it reproduced prescriptions and drug-taking schedules. Hodos is suing for defamation.

In Britain, Hamish Telfer, a senior coach, resigned because of his concern that drug-taking was also happening in domestic athletics. The response of the British Amateur Athletic Board (BAAB), which had hitherto refused to release any information on its random testing scheme, was to name the athletes who had been tested (with none positive) in the 18 months of the scheme's existence. Tony Ward, the Board public relations officer, maintained: "The BAAB is leading the way in the fight against drugs." The facts do not bear out that contention.

Nigel Cooper has confirmed to us that in 1982, when he was the newly installed BAAB secretary, he acceded to a last-minute demand by East German officials that drug tests would be waived in the international match at Crystal Palace on June 18 and 19. In 1983, the AAA struck a similar arrangement with a United States team for an indoor match at Cosford on March 12.

Later that year, the BAAB had another arrangement with a Soviet team for the match in Birmingham on June 5 and 6. The Russian athletes provided samples during competition as normal, but after the match, Cooper handed them back to Russian officials in their hotel. This did not amuse the Drug Control laboratory at King's College, which does all the testing, and whose equipment the Russians took away with them. The laboratory invoiced the British Board for the sample bottles and cases, and was paid. Cooper retired last month in the wake of the Amateur Athletic Association's effective takeover of the Board.

Such arrangements were not restricted to matches between countries. The 1985 Peugeot Talbot Games at Crystal Palace was the first IAAF Grand Prix meeting in Britain. The drug-testing at such meetings was still carried out by local administrators, but it was done under the auspices of the IAAF. The meeting's promoter was Andy Norman, the newly nominated head of the British Athletics Promotions Unit, and the IAAF representative was Robert Stinson, its British honorary treasurer.

The meeting became best known for the "Olympic rematch" between Mary Decker Slaney and Zola Budd. But Norman had another problem. Nine Russian athletes threatened to walk out of the meeting when they discovered that they would be liable to testing. Stinson reassured them that they would not be tested.

David Bedford, promoter of the other grand prix event in Britain, the Miller Lite/IAC meeting, recognizes the pressure on promoters. "If it's the day before your meeting, and you've had a lot of athletes drop out, you're almost prepared to do anything," he told *The Times* last week.

Coaches in particular know this. An American coach rang Bedford last summer to ask what his drug-testing "arrangements" were. When Bedford said there were none, the coach's athletes did not come to the meeting.

Not all organizers can say the same, according to Ed Moses, the world's leading 400 metres hurdler. He told *The Times* last week: "It is well known that not only Americans but other foreign athletes can come to meets in Europe and not be tested."

TOMORROW

An international athlete tells how the drug samples are manipulated.

BOXING

Revenge is an added motive for success

By Srikumar Sen
Boxing Correspondent

Blaine Logsdon, the Warrington light-heavyweight, puts his International Boxing Federation (IBF) No. 8 ranking at stake when he takes on Tony Wilson, of Wolverhampton, for the vacant Brititsh light-heavyeight champion at Sophia Gardens, Cardiff, tonight.

For a journeyman he has travelled far. But can he stay the distance this time? Logsdon is thought to be a vastly improved boxer from the man who was knocked out by Wilson in four rounds in 1985.

Logsdon has won his last five contests inside the distance; one against Slobodan Kacar, of Yugoslavia, the former IBF champion. And Logsdon did well to floor him four times before finishing him off in the second round.

When Logsdon met Wilson he was having his 24th bout; Wilson was making his debut. Logsdon floored Wilson in the first, but he picked himself up, got his boxing together and stopped Logsdon in the fourth. Wilson has now had 13 bouts, winning 12 and losing one; Logsdon has won 21 of his 41.

Wilson, who has height and technical advantage, should be able to stay in front by use of his longer jab. As Wilson's manager and trainer, Jimmy Tibbs, said: "It is a question of tucking up and jabbing. Tony has waited nine months for this chance. He'll have too much ability."

Since both boxers are suspect round the chin, the contest should be an explosive affair, with both having to pick themselves up off the floor. Logsdon has had plenty of practical experience: he was on the floor six times against Moody, five times against Eddie Smith, the middleweight, and twice before losing to Schumacher.

Partners' first show in trouble

The new partnership of Frank Warren and Barry Hearn, barely a week old, has run into problems (Srikumar Sen writes). Their first show, the British heavyweight title bout between Horace Notice, the champion, and Trevor Currie at the York Hall, London, on January 27, could be called off.

Currie's manager, Mike Barrett, has informed the new partnership that his man will not be fit enough to challenge on January 27 but will be available two weeks later. Warren said: "I don't see how you can say that a boxer's going to be available in eight weeks' time but not in six. Who's kidding who?"

The boxing board has asked Currie to produce a medical certificate and Adrian Whiteson, the board's senior medical officer, is to give Currie a medical this week.

Warren added: "We had planned to put on two title fights that night: the British heavyweight title fight and Sammy Reeson's European title defence. If Currie can't fight on that date he will have to wait till April."

Neither Notice's manager, Terry Lawless, nor Barrett attended the Press conference to announce the contest that might not be. Notice was accompanied by Lawless's son, Stephen, and the trainer, Frank Black. Until recently Lawless was Hearn's partner; Barrett and Warren just do not get on.

Barrett later said: "There is no way Trevor will fight if he is not 100 per cent fit and I am happy for him to be examined. He resumed light training today after three weeks off and it takes heavyweights much longer than other fighters to get in shape. I've told Barry Hearn that my boxers don't box just to suit television."

AMERICAN FOOTBALL

Seahawks swoop to conquer

By Robert Kirley

Some things come easily: four of the five National conference play-off positions were decided nine days ago. Other things are not so straightforward: with two weeks remaining in the National Football League season, none of the American conference play-off positions has been determined. Eleven of the 14 teams have a chance to become division winners and six hold at least a share of first place.

In the west division, the Seattle Seahawks resuscitated their play-off aspirations on Sunday. Krieg completed three touchdown passes to lead a 28-21 victory over the Denver Broncos. Largent, the wily Seattle receiver, has caught at least one pass in a league-record 150 consecutive games. Elway, of Denver, was good for 335 yards and two touchdowns, but he threw two interceptions.

RESULTS: Cleveland 38, Cincinnati 24; Green Bay 16, Minnesota 10; Buffalo 27, Indianapolis 3; New Orleans 24, Houston 10; New England 42, NY Jets 20; Miami 28, Philadelphia 10; Washington 24, Dallas 20; Kansas City 16, LA Raiders 10; LA Rams 33, Atlanta 0; Pittsburgh 20, San Diego 16; St Louis 27, NY Giants 24; Detroit 20, Tampa Bay 10; Seattle 28, Denver 21.

	W	L	D	F	A
American Conference					
Eastern Division					
Buffalo Bills	7	6	0	258	275
Indianapolis Colts	7	6	0	256	225
Miami Dolphins	7	6	.0	329	290
New York Jets	8	7	0	300	302
New England Patriots	6	7	0	283	276
Central division					
Cleveland Browns	8	5	0	347	209
Pittsburgh Steelers	8	5	0	256	256
Houston Oilers	7	6	0	300	316
Cincinnati Bengals	4	9	0	244	308
West division					
Denver Broncos	8	4	1	335	271
San Diego Chargers	8	5	0	246	270
Seattle Seahawks	8	5	0	317	252
Los Angeles Raiders	5	8	0	281	259
Kansas City Chiefs	3	10	0	215	348
National Conference					
East division					
x-Washington Redskins	10	3	0	331	238
St Louis Cardinals	6	7	0	315	333
Dallas Cowboys	5	8	0	290	311
Philadelphia Eagles	5	8	0	282	348
New York Giants	4	9	0	240	295
Central division					
x-Chicago Bears	10	2	0	329	204
Minnesota Vikings	7	6	0	285	294
Green Bay Packers	5	7	1	221	247
Tampa Bay Buccaneers	4	9	0	255	305
Detroit Lions	3	10	0	225	354
West division					
y-San Francisco 49ers	10	2	0	335	248
y-New Orleans Saints	10	3	0	348	235
Los Angeles Rams	6	7	0	296	284
Atlanta Falcons	3	10	0	185	371

e Does not include last night's game: San Francisco v Chicago.
x-division champions.
y-clinched at least wild-card play-off berth.

EQUESTRIANISM

A man ready to jump when the opportunity arises

By Jenny MacArthur

Sooner or later, the mould at the top of show jumping in Britain is going to be broken, and the man to break it could well be Alan Fazakerley. For five years the British team has almost selected itself — Nick Skelton, Michael and John Whitaker and Malcolm Pyrah. But Fazakerley, with several top horses and solid financial backing, is close to displacing any one of them. He has another chance to show his ability when he competes at the Olympia Championships this week (December 16 to 20).

Fazakerely is aged 25, yet surprisingly it is his first appearance at the show. Qualifying or getting chosen for international shows is a problem for those on the fringe. Last year, when he had only just started riding for Fred Brown, of Brown Group International, he hardly felt up to competing in World Cup shows, even if he had had the opportunity. Now, confident in his top horses — Rebound, Soloman, Blue Moon and St Mungo — all owned by Brown, he will go wherever he can and at whatever notice.

The call for last month's Berlin show, his first World Cup event, came just two days before he had to set off. The horses, that had been resting for three weeks, were taken to a small show the next day for a warm-up. They returned at 7.30 p.m., and at 3.30 a.m. the following morning the horsebox, with Fazakerley at the wheel, set out for Harwich. A first and second on Soloman, Fazakerley's favorite horse, and a creditable performance on Rebound in the World Cup qualifier, made it worthwhile.

But it did not help him get into the Brussels show the following weekend. "We've so many good riders who automatically get the invitations. The only chance you have is if they drop out or if you get within the top ten of the FEI (Fédération Equestre Internationale) computer ranking list. But if you don't get into the shows, you've no chance of climbing up the list."

On the national ranking list Fazakerley is tenth, the highest placing he has achieved. It was this position, together with his Nations Cup performances at Liège and Lucerne this year, which earned him selection for Olympia.

Although Fazakerley has been in the sport since leaving school aged at 16, his great advance came just under two years ago. "Since riding Mr Brown's horses I have felt capable of beating anyone," he said. His most significant victory to date, he feels, was his joint win on Rebound in the Puissance at Wembley last year.



Fazakerley: Olympia debut

Fazakerley has been building on the recognition that victory brought. Unlike many of the leading riders, he is constantly seeking advice from trainers. "I know my position is not good, I'm always tending to get a little in front of the horse."

Fazakerley's stylistic faults may well stem from his untutoured beginnings. Born in Salford, where his father is a postman, he had seen ponies being ridden on a visit to the beach and wanted to have a go himself. At the age of seven his mother treated to a riding lesson. From them on he made the eight-mile journey to the local riding school each week.

But it was not until he joined Harvey Kaye's yard, in Yorkshire, at 16, that he received his first serious instruction. "By the end of my two years with Harvey I thought I was pretty good. Now I know again how much I have to learn."

Fazakerley lives with the Browns as one of the family. Their luxurious bungalow lies in the middle of their 250 acres of undulating pasture-land above Otley in Yorkshire, with spectacular views over Ilkley Moor. The facilities are first class. Fred Brown, whose interest in the sport started when his youngest daughter, Jill, took up riding, has designed the stables so that he can check the horses at night in his slippers. The covered yard is an extension of the house and the horses can practically look into the kitchen.

Fazakerley spend mornings with the horses and afternoons helping on the farm. "I think it's important that the person who rides the horses, feeds them." After that he normally rides at least four a day — the yard presently has four grade As, two grade Bs and one grade C. There is one full-time groom, David Horsfield.

He can appreciate his situation all the more after trying to "go it alone" for the six months previously. He had been with John Whitaker for five years before that and, though Whitaker let him compete on a variety of his grade A horses, giving him valuable experience, he knew that he was always going to be in Whitaker's shadow. Running his own yard, however, taught him that he had no chance to get to the top without a backer. Fortunately Brown, who had some horses with Whitaker, including St Mungo, and had seen the potential in Fazakerley's riding, offered him employment.

Even now, Fazakerley has no illusions. "The famous four have a pretty strong hold. When you remember that they're keeping David Broome and Harvey Smith out, you're kidding yourself that you can get onto the team unless you've got a superstar of a horse."

On the other hand, Michael Whitaker needs a top horse for the Olympics, and Towerlands Anglezarke, Malcolm Pyrah's stalwart, is 16. The cracks are appearing.

REAL TENNIS

Pace helps Davies take title

From William Stephens
Bordeaux

Wayne Davies, the world champion, repelled a strong challenge from Chris Ronaldson, the holder, to win the French Open title 6-2, 1-6, 5-6, 6-2, 6-4 here on Sunday.

The championship, sponsored by Chateau Cos d'Estournel, produced several matches of high quality.

Ronaldson had been sharpened by his encounter with Julian Snow, the British amateur champion, in the semi-finals on Saturday. Ronaldson won 2-6, 6-3, 6-2, 6-5 but Snow, sensing the possibility of victory as he noted Ronaldson's unforced errors and ungainly movements, hustled his opponent relentlessly; he played a tight game at high speed around the court, retrieving sharply.

Ronaldson looked distressed as he struggled to keep his composure in the face of the intensity exuded by Snow, and was particularly discouraged by one remarkable stroke by his opponent. Ronaldson, from mid-court, had put the ball away under the tambour, only to find it returned past him down the main wall to chase one.

Ronaldson then changed to a drag service and focused on Snow's backhand which yielded the desired result. In the final, Davies found Ronaldson returning to his best form in the second set. He appeared highly motivated and induced errors from his opponent through controlled placing, particularly by volley under the winning gallery. The third set developed into a real tussle. Davies's fleetness of foot maintained acute pressure; he performed one memorable coup: Ronaldson had played a kill shot under the winning gallery and found the ball lobbed over his head into the dedans.

At two sets all and 3-3 Davies broke the deadlock with four winners in quick succession: a boasted dedans, a winning gallery and two grilles. Then Ronaldson boasted two below the winning gallery only to see the ball pass him to lay a short chase; his challenge expired.

SKIING

'Crazy Cannucks' are racing back

From Iain Macleod, Val Gardena

Rob Boyd, aged 21, from Whistler Mountain, British Columbia, could afford to smile. He had, in the second successive year, tamed Val Gardena's famed Saslong course to record his second World Cup victory. And, with his compatriot, Brian Stemmle, also aged 21, in third place, the Canadian hotel here was the place to be on Saturday night.

With the world's media listening, Boyd offered a warning to the mighty Swiss, when he declared that "the crazy Cannucks are back".

The original "Cannucks" were the ledgendary breed of Canadian downhillers — Read, Irwin, Borski and Brooker — who saw the descent down the side of a mountain as the ultimate in daredevilry and responded to the challenge by winning 17 downhill races between 1975 and 1984.

But when the emotion subsided it was evident that Stemmle's third place was an equally justifiable cause for celebration. "It is especially good to have two in the top three," Boyd remarked. Stemmle is regarded by many Canadians as being the more likely to restore the dynasty.

Boyd, born in Vernon, British Columbia, moved to Whistler Mountain six years ago. Stemmle, the Canadian champion, hails from Aurore, Ontario.

One fascinating aspect of Stemmle's background pertains to the province of Ontario, which has no adequate ski areas. Yet, it has produced the likes of Podborski, and Kellie Casey, presently enjoying success on the women's circuit.

The key lies in the inappropriately named Blue Mountains, which is in fact more of a hill, though it is always very icy. It is believed that youngsters learn to ski so well because of the terrible conditions. But the common denominator in Canada's renaissance is Heinz Stohl, aged 40, the World Cup downhill coach. When the "crazy cannuck" era ended, the Canadian federation's lack of foresight led to a barren spell and the need to start again.

So enters Stohl, who had served for 14 years as coach to the highly successful Austrian team, then under the legendary "Charlie" Kahr. Stohl had left in a blaze of bad publicity and was not to enjoy an auspicious start in his new homeland.

Stohl spoke little English and his methods initially met with widespread disapproval. But Stohl knew what was required, and as the champagne corks popped, the man who had known almost unlimited success with Austria said: "This is my happiest moment." Yet, Stohl believes that Stemmle is the better long-term prospect.

Oxford turns to Steel

Several hundred miles from the excitement of Twickenham, preparations for the final pre-Christmas University match are gathering pace on the slopes of Val d'Isère (a Special Correspondent writes). In this, the 66th year of this fixture, the competition promises to be a great deal closer than for many years.

Oxford have proved resilient in training. Their captain, Jean de Pourtales, last year's champion who makes up his team with two former Blues, feels he is offering a strong challenge to the Cambridge team.

With Oxford starting narrow favourites Cambridge are looking for a determined performance from their team which includes last year's British schools champion, Robby Steel.

In the women's competition, however, Cambridge are fielding a much stronger side and seem likely to retain their trophy. Sarah Wilson a Blue from last year looked particularly strong in training.

CAMBRIDGE: M Rees* (Emmanuel), M Dean* (Queens), R Steel (Downing), R Swallow (Caius), M Legrice (Darwin), J Stevenson (Magdalene).
OXFORD: J de Pourtales* (Merton), C Rogers* (Christchurch), R Hall* (Merton), R Wessover (Worcester), J Lack (Lincoln), M Moorhead (New College).
* denotes a Blue.

Paralympics cash boost for British

The British Sports Association for the Disabled (BSAD) yesterday received £21,000 from Minet Holdings towards its appeal of £400,000 to send a team next year to the eighth Paralympics, in Seoul from October 13 to 27 (John Goodbody writes).

Britain, who were third behind the United States and Australia in the medals table at the 1984 Paralympics with 164 medals, are hoping to send a team of about 250 with their escorts to the Games.

About 40 countries are expected to go to Seoul for the event, which will follow the Olympic Games and use the same facilities.

Austin Waterworth, the Chief Executive of the BSAD, said yesterday: "This money will be a tremendous help for the transport and preparation of competitors. "Just like the top-class able-bodied competitors, we will have pre-Olympics training camps in sports such as athletics and swimming."

The team will be selected from five national organizations for the disabled. Among the Britons who are expected to compete at Seoul are Robin Surgeoner, who took five swimming titles in Los Angeles in 1984, Di Coates, the world air-weapons champion, and Peter Hull, celebrated for his performance in a wheelchair in the London marathon, in which he competes although he has no arms or legs.

The money was raised at a recent sports lunch given by Minet Holdings and attended by the Princess of Wales and more than 60 of Britain's leading sports personalities. Minet is providing a £1.5 million sponsorship of British individual preparations for next year's Olympic Games in Calgary and Seoul.

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FOOTBALL

Yugoslavs need five to displace England

Dave Sexton will know later today whether his England under-21 squad has qualified for the quarter-finals of the European under-21 championship. It will go through to the knock-out stages unless Yugoslavia edge it out by beating Turkey by five clear goals in Izmir.

England's hopes of qualifying looked slim when they drew their first three matches – against Turkey home and away and at home to Yugoslavia – but they stormed back into contention with a 5-1 win in Yugoslavia last month.

The other quarter-finalists are Spain, Italy, France, Greece, Czechoslovakia, Scotland and either The Netherlands or Bulgaria.

● Scotland's build-up to the next World Cup will begin in unfamiliar territory of Saudi Arabia in the New Year. Andy Roxburgh takes his squad to the Gulf for the first time in Scotland's history for a friendly international in Riyadh on February 16 or 17.

● Peter Fox, the Stoke City goalkeeper, went into hospital yesterday in the hope of clearing up a troublesome back injury. Fox recently returned for one game after a five week lay-off, but his injury has flared up again and he will now spend nine days in traction.

FA Vase

FOURTH ROUND DRAW: North Ferriby United v Wren Rovers; Farsley Celtic v Hatfield Main; Bridgnorth Town v Emley; Thackley v Durham Co or Unisaco; Colne Dynamoes v Fleetwood Town; Tamworth v Thorne or Haringey Borough; Haverhill Rovers v Atherstone United; Sudbury Town v Irthlingborough Diamonds; RSSC Ransomes or Grassley Rovers v Southgate Athletic or Northampton Spencer; Whyteleafe or Hungerford Town v Braintree Town; Corinthian v Harwich and Parkeston; Thatcham Town v Chertsey Town; Hounslow v Chatham St Peter; St Austell or Shortwood United v Falmouth Town; Basney v Vale Recreation; Bridport v Clevedon Town.
Ties to be played on January 16.

Italians to probe violence

By Simon O'Hagan

The president of the Italian Football Federation has arranged an emergency meeting with the country's interior minister after problems with hooliganism took a frightening turn for the worse on Sunday when Franco Tancredi, the Roma goalkeeper, nearly died after being hit by two firecrackers thrown from the crowd. It was the third time this season that players had been hurt in this way.

The incident occurred at AC Milan as the second half of the match was about to begin. Tancredi, a former Italian international, was knocked unconscious for 45 minutes and at one time his heart stopped beating. Doctors carried out heart massage and mouth-to-mouth resuscitation to keep him alive. He suffered temporary paralysis in his legs, but after a few hours in hospital he left in a wheelchair and returned to Rome with his team-mates. He is expected to have recovered fully in a week. Milan won the match 1-0, but the result is almost certain to be overturned.

The incident overshadowed a day which should have belonged to Maradona and Rush, who met for the first time this season when Napoli took on Juventus. For Rush – fined £3,000 last week for some ill-chosen comments about his club – it was another disappointing afternoon. He made little impression and Napoli won 2-1, Maradona scoring the winner with a penalty in the last minute.

European results

BELGIAN: Kortrijk 2, Antwerp 4; FC Liège 0, Waterschei 0; Lokeren 0, Beveren 0; Racing Jet 0, Standard Liège 2; Molenbeek 0, Mechelen 0; Club Bruges 2, Ghent 1; Charleroi 1, Anderlecht 0; Mechelen 3, Cercle Bruges 2; Beerschot 2, St Truiden 0. Leading positions: 1, Antwerp, played 18, 30pts; 2, 2, Club Bruges, 18, 27; 3, Mechelen, 18, 26.
DUTCH: Sparta 2, DS '79 1; PSV Eindhoven 2, Haarlem 1; VVV Venlo 3, Ajax 1. Leading positions: 1, PSV Eindhoven, played 16, 32pts; 2, Ajax, 17, 24; 3, Feyenoord, 15, 19.
EAST GERMAN: Vorwaerts Frankfurt 1, Dynamo Berlin 1; Rot-Weiss Erfurt 1, Motorenwerk Leipzig 2; Union Berlin 1, Karl-Marx-Stadt 1; Stahl Brandenburg 2, Chemie Halle 1; Carl Zeiss Jena 1, Dynamo Dresden 2; Stahl Riesa 3, Hansa Rostock 2; Wismut Aue 0, Magdeburg 0. Leading positions: 1, Dynamo Berlin, played 13, 20pts; 2, Lokomotiv Leipzig, 13, 20; 3, Dynamo Dresden, 13, 17.
FRENCH: Toulouse 2, Monaco 1; Le Havre 0 Bordeaux 1; Nice 1 Metra Racing 2; Lens 2, Etienne 1; Marseille 0, Lille 1; Montpellier 4, Cannes 2; Nantes 1, Laval 2; Auxerre 4, Brest 0; Lens 3, Toulon 1; Paris Saint-Germain 1, Nice 3. Leading positions: 1, Monaco, played 23, 33pts; 2, Bordeaux, 23, 30; 3, Metra Racing, 23, 30.
GREEK: No matches played.
ITALIAN: Cesena 3, Como 0; Fiorentina 1, Internazionale 2; Milan 1, Roma 0; Napoli 2, Juventus 1; Pescara 2, Avellino 0; Sampdoria 2, Ascoli 0; Torino 0, Empoli 1; Verona 0, Pisa 0. Leading positions: 1, Napoli, played 11, 19pts; 2, AC Milan, 11, 16; 3, Sampdoria, 11, 15.
LEAGUE OF IRELAND: Premier division: Bray Wanderers 0, Limerick City 0; Cork City 1, Derry City 0; Dundalk 3, Shelbourne 1; Galway Utd 2, Waterford Utd 2; St Patrick's Ath 4, Sligo Rovers 2. Leading positions: 1, Dundalk, played 15, 24pts; 2, Shamrock Rovers, 14, 20; 3, Waterford United, 15, 20.
PORTUGUESE: Academica 2, Benfica 4; Sporting 2, Portimonense 0; Espinho 1, Guimaraes 3; Elvas 1, Setubal 1; Penafiel 2, Varzem 1; Braga 1, Maritimo 1; Chaves 2, Covilha 1; Farense 1, Belenenses 0; Boa Ave 0, Boavista 0. Leading positions: 1, Porto, played 12, 21pts; 2, Benfica, 13, 18; 3, Boavista, 13, 15.
ROMANIAN: Victoria Bucharest 2, Flacara Moreni 1; Dinamo Bucharest 3, Otelul Galati 1; Rapid Bucharest 0, Steaua Bucharest 4; Universitatea Cluj Napoca 1, Corvinul Hunedoara 2; SC Bacau 0, FCM Brasov 1; CSM Suceava 2, FC Olt 0; Politehnica Timisoara 3, FC Arges 0; ASA Targu Mures 2, Sportul Studentesc 0; Universitatea Craiova 2, Petrolul Ploiesti 0. Leading positions: 1, Steaua Bucharest, played 17, 32pts; 2, Dinamo Bucharest, 15, 29; 3, Victoria Bucharest, 15, 19.
SPANISH: Real Murcia 0, Cadiz 0; Real Sociedad 4, Barcelona 1; Real Valladolid 0, Real Betis 0; Real Madrid 2, Celta 0; Sporting 1, Logrones 0; Real Zaragoza 1, Real Mallorca 0; Osasuna 0, Sabadell 0; Sevilla 1, Athletic Bilbao 1; Espanol 3, Valencia 1; Las Palmas 0, Atletico Madrid 3. Leading positions: 1, Real Madrid, played 14, 25pts; 2, Atlético Madrid, 14, 21; 3, Real Sociedad, 14, 19.
WEST GERMAN: No matches played.
SWISS: Neuchâtel Xamax 2, Bellinzona 1; Basle 1, Young Boys Berne 4; Lausanne 4, Aarau 1; Servette 3, St Gallen 1; Sion 1, Grasshoppers 2; Zurich 0, Lucerne 3. Leading positions: 1, Neuchâtel Xamax, played 22, 31pts; 2, Grasshoppers, 22, 30; Young Boys, 22, 26.

RUGBY UNION

Hancock's hour at Twickenham earns reward with London

By David Hands, Rugby Correspondent

London's poor showing in the Toshiba divisional championship was reflected yesterday when the team for their final match – against the South-West at Imber Court on Saturday – was confirmed.

Apart from the necessity of replacing the injured Wasps flanker, Rigby, four other changes have been made: at full back, centre, scrum half and lock. As one England World Cup squad member departs, another returns: thus Marcus Rose is ousted at full back and Salmon, his club colleague at Harlequins, returns at centre.

Stringer, who won five caps between 1983 and 1985, replaces Rose, while Lozowski makes way for Salmon. In the forwards Pinnegar, who captained London last season, is succeeded by Edwards, the Harlequins lock who played the last 15 minutes of Saturday's game against the Midlands as a replacement for Rigby. The back-row vacancy goes to Pegler, Rigby's club captain at Wasps.

But perhaps the most interesting change is at scrum half where Bates, an England under-23 player, gives way to Hancock, of Cambridge University. "We watched Hancock before the University match and were impressed," Graham Smith, chairman of the London selectors said yesterday. "Last Tuesday's game at Twickenham confirmed our thoughts about him."

Hancock, aged 22, is a Lancastrian who spent three years at Loughborough University and played for England students. He was capped in 1983 at 18 group schools level. At the end of last summer he was one of the Felbridge juniors party which toured South Africa, under the coaching of Salmon, several of whom returned with enhanced playing reputations. After an excellent first term at Cambridge his ability requires a further examination and Harding, captain of the South-West and a Cambridge Blue at scrum half in 1973-74, is the man to provide it.

Of the deposed players perhaps Lozowski is the most unfortunate, since London's backs have not been overemployed. But for that reason the experiment of playing Lawrence Smith, the Saracens centre, remains not proven and it is hoped that Salmon's experience will bring the best out of a back division which remains without Davies, the original stand-off half. Although he played in a second team game for Wasps at the weekend, Davies does not consider himself fit enough for divisional rugby so Colyer remains in possession.

"We have not been successful so we have to try and pick ourselves up and find a win on Saturday," Graham Smith said. With two victories to their credit, the North are favourites for the divisional title but if they lose to the Midlands at Northampton on Saturday, and if the South-West beat London, the winner in a three-way tie on match points will be decided on points difference. Only a further tie would ensure a share of the Toshiba trophy.

It is an interesting reflection that London have been the least successful division and the clubs from whom they are primarily drawn (Wasps and Harlequins) have played as few or fewer Courage clubs championship games than anyone other first division side, except Waterloo (whose representation in the North's team is small). Make of that what you will.

LONDON DIVISION: (Wasps unless stated): N Stringer; M Bailey (capt), L Smith (Saracens), J Salmon, S Hunter (both Harlequins); N Colyer (Blackheath), M Hancock (Cambridge University); P Randall, J Olver (Harlequins), J Probyn, M Skinner, N Edwards (both Harlequins), S O'Leary, D Pegler, M Rose. Replacements: S Thresher, A Mullins (both Harlequins), R Lozowski, S Bates, C Pinnegar, J McFarland (Saracens).



Going Bananas: Steve Douse (left) with the Raleigh-Banana captain, Phil Thomas

CYCLING

Sherwen's sights set on top awards

By Peter Bryan

Five new riders are included in a 1988 rejig of the Raleigh-Banana professional team announced yesterday by the manager, Paul Sherwen. Only two of this year's squad, Dave Mann and Phil Thomas, have been retained, with the latter appointed team captain to succeed Sherwen.

Sherwen has achieved a strong mix of riders, and his team has sprinters and climbers capable of taking some of the new season's top awards.

The team's No. 1 sprinter is likely to be Chris Walker, aged 22, from Sheffield, who won the sprinter's category in the Kellogg's Tour of Britain this year. He is seen as a natural successor to the Milk Race winner, Malcolm Elliott, who has joined the Fagor team with the world champion, Stephen Roche.

Raleigh's climbing strength will rest on the slim shoulders of the Londoner, Chris Lillywhite, who, despite severe injuries, refused to abandon this year's Nissan International in Ireland and won the best climber award.

The youngest member of the line-up is Stuart Coles, of Blackwood, who turned professional this year for the Milk Race and went on to finish fifth in the road race championship.

Webbe goes home for more tests

By David Hands

Glenn Webbe, the Bridgend and Wales wing, was discharged from the West Middlesex Hospital yesterday, but his rugby future must remain in doubt after he was admitted apparently suffering from an epileptic seizure on Sunday afternoon.

He was in a sufficiently stable condition for members of his family to collect him from hospital and travel back to Cardiff where he will undergo further medical examination. His sporting future, though, will rest upon the results of those tests.

Webbe, aged 25, was taken to hospital after a collision between himself, a colleague and two opponents during the game at Old Deer Park between the Public School Wanderers and the touring South Koreans. It was feared at first that he had sustained a neck injury, but the hospital confirmed yesterday that, after a night under observation, he was up and about again.

I understand, however, that there is evidence to suggest this is not the first time Webbe has suffered such a seizure. A knock on the head is liable to produce epilepsy – which is not a disease – and even in Webbe's position of wing threequarter, physical contact is unavoidable. Indeed, during the World Cup last summer, he was the victim of a high tackle by a Tongan opponent and was forced to return home.

He has won seven caps for Wales, the latest against the United States last month, and is one of the most exciting players in Britain with his lithe, sinuous running. There would, presumably, be nothing to stop him maintaining a place in competitive sport, such as athletics, if tests indicate that a physical contact sport was inadvisable, but it would be a sad loss for Rugby Union.

● Brian Spillane, of London Irish, is out of the Irish trial at Lansdowne Road on Saturday. His place at No. 8 for the Probables goes to Mike Gibson, who moves across from the Possibles, with David Morrow coming in for Gibson (George Ace writes).

Spillane sustained an eye injury playing against Northampton at the weekend. An IRFU spokesman said yesterday: "We do not yet know the extent of Spillane's injury, but first reports indicate that it could be quite serious."

● Charlie Vyvyan, who had a memorable Varsity match, will be out of rugby for six months after undergoing major knee surgery in a Cambridge nursing home. Vyvyan, at No. 8, played a leading part in Cambridge University's victory at Twickenham last week, despite a badly damaged knee.

"I am not sure of the full extent of the operation, but know that the ligament was repaired and some new ones inserted," he said. "I will not play again this season but the doctors have said that the knee should virtually be as good as new, and I expect to be fully fit for the next university season."

Warwick to meet Somerset

Warwickshire, holders of the NatWest Bank Shield for the County Colts Championship, will contest this season's final at Twickenham on Saturday when their grip on the trophy will be challenged by Somerset (David Hands writes).

Warwickshire beat Surrey, winners of the enlarged London division, by 16-9 in one semi-final at the weekend while in the other, Somerset beat Lancashire, 7-0. Saturday's final will be refereed by Fred Howard, one of England's two World Cup officials.

There are three survivors from last season's successful XV in Warwickshire's ranks: Hardwick and Andreou, in the pack, and Warwood, in the centre, while Masser finds a place from last season's bench. Both Hardwick and Andreou are playing first-team rugby for Barkers Butts, as is Back, last year's England Schools 18-group flanker.

All three, together with Masser (Nuneaton), have been invited to the England Colts trial at Birmingham next month, as have Essien (the try-scorer against Lancashire), and Knight, the Somerset full back and scrum-half, respectively. Somerset, incidentally, have at No. 8 Peter Robinson, aged 18, the brother of the Bath and South-West flanker, Andy Robinson, who will be playing divisional rugby only a couple of miles away on the same afternoon.

BASKETBALL

Bolton may close by end of week

By Nicholas Harling

The imminent sale of their two foreign players may come too late to save Bolton and Bury Giants from extinction.

The Lancashire club's financial crisis is so serious that unless a sponsor comes forward immediately it could go out of business before the weekend.

Bolton's plight could have been averted, or at least delayed, had Mike Shaft, the club's owner, being able to obtain the £15,000 he wanted for Terry Crosby, the club's dual national, who qualifies as an English player next season. The local council would then have fulfilled a promise to provide an extra £5,000 with which Bolton could have seen out the season.

Shaft may well have to accept £3,000 from Manchester United, an offer he considers derisory, for the player who holds the Carlsberg League individual scoring record of 72 points in one match.

Transfer fees of less than £1,000 that Shaft hopes to receive from Alphaprint Royals for Cleveland Woods, Bolton's American, and from Draper's Tools Solent Stars for Ed Bona, their Sudanese forward, will help but may not be enough to save the club.

Ironically Bolton may expire in the middle of what is already their best season, although Saturday's 72-66 success at Derby, which gave them their seventh win, was the last in which Roy Blake took charge as coach. "He has taken things particularly badly as he was striving so hard for success," Shaft said of Blake's resignation.

Solent have agreed to postpone tomorrow's Carlsberg League fixture between the clubs.

ATHLETICS

IAC race boosted by top Kenyans

By Steven Downes

David Bedford was wearing one of those I-told-you-so grins yesterday. For the day after the British Amateur Athletic Board had conceded that it needed to ask many of the country's top cross-country runners to pay their own expenses to compete in the first UK world championship trial at Gateshead next month, Bedford – a long-time prophet of the Board's financial doom – was presiding over the International Athletes' Club announcement of its HFC international cross-country races, to be staged in the grounds of Cardiff Castle on Saturday.

He had a right to be pleased with the calibre of athletes he has assembled for the eight-kilometre men's event and women's five-kilometre race. "The highest standard we have ever had in 18 years," Bedford said. A boast given credence by the presence of the Kenyans.

John Ngugi has won the world championship for the past two years; Paul Kipkoech was only just beaten into second place by him in Warsaw last March. Of the two, Kipkoech is likely to be in the better form for Saturday's race. Since his defeat in the cross-country, Kipkoech has claimed a world track title of his own, over 10,000 metres in Rome.

For the 70-or-so British runners in the men's race, it will be a chance to impress before the final list of UK trial invitees is drafted. Certainly, the cream of British cross-country will be represented, as the field includes every English champion since 1981; England's team on this occasion comprising Tim Hutchings, Dave Clarke, David Lewis and Carl Thackery.

RUGBY LEAGUE

Inquiry time proves painful

By Keith Macklin

Two painful inquiries are taking place in Rugby League. The management committee are today considering the notorious brawl between York and Dewsbury, and St Helens are conducting an internal inquiry into the expensive High Court hearing that last week saw Wigan win the legal tug-of-war over Adrian Shelford, the New Zealand international forward.

Lawrie Prescott, the St Helens chairman, has the unenviable task of presenting to his fellow directors a report on the £60,000 bill for the litigation. The bill is a staggering one, and several directors may question the wisdom of continuing the action, particularly since it is understood that Wigan twice offered reasonable out-of-court settlements.

Today's management committee meeting will have much more far-reaching effects than the internal hand-wringing at Knowsley Road. The committee is under pressure from all sides to "make an example" – which is hardly the fairest of atmospheres in which to conduct any quasi-legal hearing. The Rugby League is so determined that witnesses are properly briefed that exhaustive and detailed legal advice has been sought over the weekend by officials, particularly the public relations officer David Howes. By coincidence, he was at the York game as a spectator, and suddenly finds himself cast in the role of chief expert witness.

Now that the initial hysteria has subsided, the committee must sift the evidence. Originally it was alleged that all 26 York and Dewsbury players joined in the alleged brawl, plus Albert Bond, a York director, but since then there have been accusations against the media of gross exaggeration. Today, three players from each side are called along with Bond.

BOBSLEIGHING

Tout's chance to move up

Mark Tout, of Britain, can move into third place in the four-man overall standings of the Foster's World Cup in Igls, Austria, today (Chris Moore writes).

Tout and his Army crew of Dave Armstrong, Lenny Paul and Audley Richards are fifth after two rounds. But with Bernard Lehmann (East Germany, third) and Michael Sperr (West Germany, fourth), absent, Tout could go third.

Tout was quickest of the Allied Steel British Olympic trio in 53.47sec – fifth fastest. Nick Phipps was 0.03sec slower on his first lauf and was pleased with the starts given by Vernon Bramble and Lenny Murrain, the new crewmen.

Partners first sho in troubl

Paralymp cash boo for Britis

FOR THE RECORD

ATHLETICS

HONOLULU: Marathon: Men: 1, I Hussein (Ken), 2hr 18min 29sec; 2, G Bhanenga (Tan), 2:19:36; 3, W Reitsynder (US), 2:21:09. Women: 1, C Beurskens (Neth), 2:35:11; 2, L Wiedenbach (US), 2:37:43; 3, K Cathey (US), 2:43:58.

BADMINTON

GLASGOW: Sunlife Scottish singles championships: Men's singles: Quarter-finals: White bt G Hamilton (Edinburgh), 17-16, 15-7; Muller bt Mauish, 15-2, 15-5; Gallagher bt Scott, 15-2, 15-10; Middlemiss bt Hogg, 15-6, 15-4. Semi-finals: White bt Muller, 15-11, 15-5; Gallagher bt Middlemiss, 15-9, 17-16. Final: White bt Gallagher, 13-15, 15-2, 15-5. Women's singles: Quarter-finals: A Nairn (Perth) bt C Chesley (Edinburgh), 15-5, 11-9; E Allen (Edinburgh) bt S Stark (Edinburgh), 11-7, 11-8; G Martin (Brookfield) bt S Bell (Glasgow), 11-5, 11-6; A Gibson (Dumfries) bt J Allen (Edinburgh), 11-1, 7-11, 12-9. Semi-finals: Nairn bt Allen, 11-4, 11-2; Gibson bt Martin, 11-6, 12-9. Final: Nairn bt Gibson, 12-11, 11-0.

BASKETBALL

UNITED STATES: National Association (NBA): Dallas Mavericks 113, Milwaukee Bucks 99; Atlanta Falcons 106, Sacramento Kings 100; Los Angeles Lakers 90, Cleveland Cavaliers 89.
CARLSBERG LEAGUE: Bracknell Tigers 101 (Scrimshaw 30, Gordon 20, Pope 17), Birmingham 81 (Gaither 36, Rowe 13, Mangum 13).
NBL: Men's division: Tower Hamlets 96, Gateshead 97. Women's division: Ipswich 54, Sheffield 66; London YMCA 89, Stockport 93; Northampton 62, Kingston 60.

EASTERN CONFERENCE

	W	L	Pct	GB
Atlantic Division				
Boston Celtics	11	8	.579	–
Philadelphia 76ers	8	8	.500	1½
New York Knicks	6	13	.316	5
Washington Bullets	6	13	.316	5
New Jersey Nets	2	15	.118	8
Central Division				
Detroit Pistons	13	5	.722	–
Chicago Bulls	14	6	.700	–
Atlanta Hawks	13	8	.684	½
Milwaukee Bucks	11	8	.579	2½
Indiana Pacers	11	8	.579	2½
Cleveland Cavaliers	7	11	.389	6

WESTERN CONFERENCE

	W	L	Pct	GB
Midwest Division				
Dallas Mavericks	12	5	.706	–
Denver Nuggets	12	7	.632	1
Houston Rockets	11	8	.579	2
San Antonio Spurs	9	8	.529	3
Utah Jazz	10	9	.526	3
Sacramento Kings	4	15	.211	9
Pacific Division	W	L	Pct	GB
Los Angeles Lakers	13	6	.684	–
Portland Trail Blazers	12	8	.600	1½
Seattle SuperSonics	10	9	.526	3
Phoenix Suns	7	10	.412	5
Los Angeles Clippers	7	11	.388	5½
Golden State Warriors	3	15	.167	9½

CRICKET

SHEFFIELD SHIELD: In Melbourne: Final day: Victoria 345 for 8 dec and 285 for 4 (J Siddons 124 not out, P Young 60), South Australia 488 and 156 for 2 dec (G Bishop 82 not out). Victoria won by 5 wkts.
INDOOR LEAGUE: Northern zone: Rochdale bt Warrington by 67 runs; Sheffield bt Derby by 1 run; Hull bt Stockport by 20 runs. Midlands zone: Wellingborough bt Leicester by 9 runs; Peterborough bt Wolverhampton by 48 runs; Nottingham bt Cradley Heath by 17 runs. Southern zone: Hounslow bt Tottenham by 19 runs; Ipswich bt Docklands by 71 runs; Fareham bt Dartford by 29 runs. Webster's Yardard: Manchester bt Liverpool, by 102 runs; Leeds bt Nottingham North by 4 runs; Walsall bt Solihull by 24 runs; Canterbury bt Totton by 20 runs.

BOARD SAILING

GUADALUPE: World Cup finals: Men: 1, B Dunkerbeck (Sp), 1.4pts; 2, B Naish (US), 5.0; 3, A Bringdal (Swe), 8.0. British placing: 24, M Woods, 45.0. Women: 1, B Dunkerbeck (Spl), 1.4; 2, N La Lleera (Fr), 5.0; 3, A Gerwelina (Can), 7.0. Overall placings: Men: 1, Naish; 2, Dunkerbeck; 3, Bringdal. Women: 1, Gravelines; 2, N Siebel (Wg), 3, J de Ward (US).

BOWLS

INTER-COUNTY CHAMPIONSHIP: Newbury: Berkshire 142, Surrey 100. Oxford: Oxfordshire 142, Derbyshire 105. Bristol: Somerset 151, Buckinghamshire 84.

CYCLING

MAASTRICHT, The Netherlands: Six-day race: Third day: 1, E de Wilde and T Van Vliet (Neth), 146pts; 2, J Zoetemelk (Neth) and R Hermann (Lich), 130; 3, D Clarke (Aus) and A Doyle (Ire), 126.

ETON FIVES

CLUB MATCHES: Wolverhampton: Wildtonians bt The Artists, 2-1 (M Yates and A Stephenson lost to A Carrier and J Reynolds, 3-1; J Pearson and R Harris bt N Moore and S Davis, 3-0; P Gordon and G Hobbs bt C Moore and J Wood, 3-0). Bromsgrove: Monday Club drew with The Artists, 2-2 (D Davies and A Hughes lost to A Carrier and J Reynolds, 2-3; A Elliott and C Brookfield bt J Turnbull and S Davis, 3-1; M Machell and M Smith lost to L Martin and N Moore, 0-3; J Ellery and B Smallwood bt J Wallis and C Moore, 3-0.

FENCING

LEICESTER: Junior grand prix tournament: Under 12 boys: 1, H Lancaster (Sussex House). Overall: 1, Lancaster, 95pts; 2, M Glanville (Crowthorne), 85; 3, K Boydown (Sussex House), 75. Under 14 girls: 1, B Corder (London Polytechnic). Overall: 1, S Richardson (Ipswich) 2, R Morrell (Derby); 3, L Kingham. Under 12 girls: 1, E Curzner (Norwich). Overall: Curzner, 97. Under 14 boys: 1, R Holmes (Brentwood). Overall: 1, G Ablett (Ashby de la Zouche), 95; 2, K Green (Ashby de la Zouche), 93; 3, K Bashir (Brentwood), 67.

FOOTBALL

KUALA LUMPUR: Merdeka tournament: Group B: Velez (Yug) 3, Dnepr (USSR), 1.
LARISSA, Greece: Olympic qualifying match: West Germany 2, Greece 0.
FA Cup: Seconds round replay: Bristol Rovers v VS Rugby. Frozen pitch.
ADDIS ABABA: East and Central African Senior Challenge Cup: Group A preliminary match: Kenya 0, Zanzibar 0.

GOLF

SONY RANKINGS: 1, G Norman (Aus), 1,231pts; 2, S Ballesteros (Sp), 1,169; 3, B Langer (WG), 1,112; 4, A Lyle (Sco), 878; 5, C Strange (US), 873; 6, I Woosnam (GB), 830; 7, P Stewart (US), 717; 8, L Wadkins (US), 697; 9, M McNulty (SA), 673; 10, B Crenshaw (US), 669.
PALM BEACH, Florida: PGA Tour championship: Final round leaders (All US): 200: M Hulbert and R Tway, 67, 68, 64, 66. 201: F Couples and M Donald, 62, 63, 64, 72. 202: G Hallberg and B Hoch, 61, 66, 72, 63. 203: S Simpson and R Wrenn, 63, 68, 69, 63; P Jacobsen and J Miller, 65, 69, 62, 64; K Clearwater and R Fehr, 66, 63, 62, 63. 204: C Rose and T Simpson, 62, 67, 63, 64. 205: D Amette and J Mudd, 63, 65, 63, 65; B Thompson and T Valentine, 66, 64, 63, 64; R Clampett and W Grimmer, 64, 63, 68, 64.
KAARAPALA, Hyundai Seniors tournament: Final round (US unless stated): 132: O Moody, 65, 67. 135: J Brodie, 68, 67, 136; D Hill, 68, 68. 137: B Charles (Fiji), 70, 67. 139: B Devlin (Aus), 75, 63; B Nichols, 67, 71. 139: D Dalziel, 68, 71; T Aaron, 65, 70; C Coody, 67, 72; A Geiberger, 70, 69.

HANDBALL

RIJEKA, Yugoslavia: World junior championships: Final place play-off: Yugoslavia 28, Spain 26. Third place play-off: USSR 34, Sweden 18.
BRITISH LEAGUE: Men: Kirkby Select 20, Liverpool 21; EK '82 27, Strathclyde University 10; Ashford Tanners 17, Milton Keynes 21; Great Dane 29, Leicester '73 17; Olympia Cannock 26, Rutslip Eagles 25. Women: Amazon 12, Manchester United 17.

HOCKEY

McEWAN'S LAGER SOUTH LEAGUE: Kent/Sussex: (Correction): Mid-Sussex 2, Old Bordenians 2.
COUNTY MATCH: Suffolk 3, Royal Air Force 2.
UNDER-21 COUNTY MATCH: Suffolk 4, Royal Air Force 1.

ICE HOCKEY

NORTH AMERICA: National League (NHL): Calgary Flames 7, Buffalo Sabres 1; Philadelphia Flyers 4, Winnipeg Jets 3; Chicago Black Hawks 5, Toronto Maple Leafs 1.

WALES CONFERENCE

Patrick Division	W	L	T	Pts	F	A
N York Islanders	18	9	1	37	122	91
N Jersey Devils	15	11	4	34	99	98
Pittsburgh Pens	12	12	5	29	107	122
Philadelphia Fl	12	13	5	29	97	109
Washington Cpts	13	14	2	28	102	92
N York Rangers	9	18	4	22	106	114
Adams League	W	L	T	Pts	F	A
Montreal Cdiens	19	7	7	45	127	96
Boston Bruins	18	11	3	39	122	111
Hartford Whalers	12	12	4	28	91	94
Buffalo Sabres	11	14	4	27	104	126
Quebec Nords	12	14	2	26	105	112

CAMPBELL CONFERENCE

Norris Division	W	L	T	Pts	F	A
Detroit R Wings	13	11	4	30	106	93
Minnesota N St	11	15	4	26	103	123
Toronto Maple Lf	12	15	2	26	114	118
St Louis Blues	11	14	3	25	99	102
Chicago B Hwks	11	17	2	24	106	134
Smythe Division	W	L	T	Pts	F	A
Edmonton Oilers	19	10	2	40	144	107
Calgary Flames	18	9	4	40	150	112
Winnipeg Jets	12	14	2	26	101	112
Vancouvr Cncks	10	17	3	23	100	112
L Angeles Kings	7	20	4	18	113	152

TABLE TENNIS

LEICESTER: Junior tournament: Boys singles: S Billington (Derbyshire) bt M Syed (Berkshire), 21-16, 21-8. Girls singles: C Potts (Cheshire) bt C Buckley (Bedfordshire), 21-8, 14-21, 21-7. Boys doubles: Billington and Syed bt A Thorp (Staffs) and M Ward (Yorkshire) 21-13, 21-13. Girls doubles: H Wright and J Wright (Devon) bt J Keighley and E Meddings (Yorkshire), 22-21, 13-21, 21-17.

TENNIS

QUEEN'S CLUB, London: LTA women's Challenge tournament: First round: L Raso (Staffs) bt C Bailey (Surrey), 6-0, 6-2; D Parrish (Cheshire) bt M Nolan (Kent), 6-1, 6-0; S Morgan (Cheshire) bt S Koppito (Surrey), 6-1, 6-1; S Tasma (Surrey) bt C Herbert (Herts), 6-0, 6-2; C Bateman (Essex) bt A Chorlton (Surrey), 6-3, 6-4; A Stopkin (Leics) bt A Hill (Devon), 5-0 ret; B Billingham (Oxford) bt M Topper (Yorks), 6-1, 6-2; L Bibby (Cheshire) bt Hamblett bt A Bishop (Herts), 5-7, 6-2, 6-2; J Caplen (Hants) bt H Walters (Essex), 6-3, 1-6, 7-5; L Harley (Devon) bt A Ferrari (Middx), 6-1, 6-0; V Humphreys-Davies (Clwyd) bt M Oldham (Surrey), 6-2, 6-0; A Fleming (Leics) bt V Greene-Barber (Cambs), 1-6, 6-2, 6-3; O Louis (Devon) bt A Sorbie (Shropsh), 6-1, 6-1.

RUGBY UNION

SCHOOLS MATCHES: Bedford Modern 15, Haberdashers Askes 13; Broxbourne 0, Richard Hale 36; Colchester High 18, Portsmouth Grammar 6; Coopers 4, Bancroft's 21; Duke of Yorks RMS 27, Bethany 8; Eastbourne 8, St Georges, Weybridge 18; Emanuel 4, Wimbledon 4; Enfield GS 37, Bishop Douglas 3; Langley Park 16, St Mary's, Sidcup 10; Merchant Taylors, Northwood 14, UCS 14; Pocklington 10, Old Pocklingtonians 14; Reigate GS 12, Maidstone GS 0; Rochester Math 10, Judd 42; Rutlish 3, St Benedicts 28; Sevenoaks 8, Dulwich 16; Tiffin 18, Hampton 4; Watlington HS 11, Charterhouse and Sidcup 18; Watford GS 3, St Albans 28; Whitgift 13, Guildford RGS 28; William Hulmes GS 28, Sale GS 0. Bishop Vasey's 20, Baltelee 0; Eltham College 8, Old Boys 8; KEH Bristol 6, King Edwards Bath 15; Queen Elizabeth, Barnet 6, QE Old Boys 25. Group 11, Invitation XV 10; St John's Sourrise 3, Bishop Wordsworth 13; Skinners 26, Kings Rochester 3; Stamford 7, Nottingham HS 13; Taunton 48, Old Tauntonians 0; Warwick 19, King Henry VIII Coventry 19; Whitgift 13, Westhouse Grove 14, St Peter's York 6.
BUCKS CUP: First Round: Bletchley 56, Chesham 0; Chiltern 3, Marlow 27; Phoenix 4, Beconsfield 19; Reckingerstans 25, RENE Harbourfield 10.
BERKS CUP: First Round: Windsor 64, Hungerford 0.
BEDFORDSHIRE CUP: Semi Final: Stockwood Park 16, Bedfordshire Athletic 0.
ESSEX LEAGUE CUP: Semi-Final: Southend 3, Woodford 6; Barking 11, Chelmsford 3.
KENT CUP: Second Round: Old Juddians 13, Beckenham 10; Sidcup 14, Gravesend 15; Ashford 23, Westcombe Park 0.
HERTS PRESIDENT'S CUP: Quarter-finals: Barnet 6, Bishop's Stortford 3; Cheshunt 12, Hemel Hempstead 0; Hitchin 3, Tabard 10; Welling 6, Old Ashmolians 0.
MIDDLESEX CUP: Fourth Round: Hackney 14, Orleans FP 0; Old Medonians 14, Upper Clapton 11.
SUFFOLK CUP: Semi-Final: Sudbury 42, Ipswich YMCA 6.
SURREY CUP: Third Round: Haredians 15, Dorking 10; Mitcham 12, Guildford and Godalming 30; Sutton and Epsom 13, Old Meadonians 28; Warlingham 22, Old Wandsworthians 6.
CLUB MATCHES: Guys Hospital 25, Old Millhillians 21; Malcham 12, Charlton Park 28; Orpington 0, Old Gravesendians 3; Richmond Thamesians 3, Old Isleworthians 3.
DERBYSHIRE CUP: Final: Derby 25, Matlock 15.
LEICESTERSHIRE CUP: Quarter-finals: Aylestone St James 34, Kibworth 14; Hinckley 34, Birstall Community College 6; Loughborough 0, Westleigh 24; Stoneygate 10, Vipers 8.
LINCOLNSHIRE CUP: Final: Boston 12, Lincoln 8.

VOLLEYBALL

NATIONAL LEAGUE: First division: Men: Capital City 3, WH Whitepool 1; Time Out Spark 3, Staffordshire Moorlands 0; Radio Trent Rockets 1, Dragonara Leads 3; Liverpool Coy 0, Redwood Lodge 3; Speedwell-Rucanor 0, Maley CC 3; Polonia 3, Alfed Sysol bt A Thorp (Staffs) and M Ward (Yorkshire) 21-13, 21-13. Girls doubles: H Wright and J Wright (Devon) bt J Keighley and E Meddings (Yorkshire), 22-21, 13-21, 21-17.

Women: Leeds 3, Birmingham Al 0; Spark

On with the game as peace is proclaimed

From John Woodcock
Cricket Correspondent
Karachi

A healthier atmosphere prevailed in the England camp last night after the players had met Raman Subba Row and Alan Smith, the two most senior officials of the Test and County Cricket Board (TCCB), upon their arrival from London. The two sides better understood why they had each acted as they did, and the only thing now that could stop tomorrow's Test match from going ahead would be if Pakistan were to insist upon having either Shakeel Khan or Shakoor Rana, England's *bêtes noires*, as one of the umpires.

The identity of the umpires has turned, in fact, into a game of spoof. Piqued by English criticism, Hasib Ahsan says Pakistan do not care a damn who umpires the match. "You can have Bird and Shepherd if you like, or David Constant for all we care . . . Get them over and we'll pay the bill," he said.

Less figuratively, he suggested any two of the four Indians who stood in the World Cup. England like the idea of that, though whether they can be got to Karachi in time is another matter. If visas are given as a reason for their being unable to, we shall know then that it is just a send-up.

After meeting the players, Subba Row issued a statement that expressed the TCCB's confidence in the team, its management and captain. Gatting, he said, was looking forward to going to New Zealand and Australia after the Christmas break at home — as captain.

Subba Row was not of the opinion that by signing an apology to Shakoor, without receiving one in return, Gatting had lost self-respect. "I don't think we fully realized the strength of the players' frustration, just as the players were probably unaware of how very strong the board's views are on dissent." Gatting was pleased the way things had worked out. So it is peace in our time.

The chairman of the board admits, in retrospect, that it might have paid him to come to Pakistan immediately after the first Test match to see for himself the difficulties the players were experiencing and which had got out of hand when Broad refused to leave the wicket in Lahore.

To accept now, as Subba Row does, that "the game of cricket and all it stands for has not been played" is all and more the players could have asked for. That is a very sweeping statement but it is important that Subba Row should not be persuaded that the faults have been all on one side.

From being unenthusiastic the TCCB have joined the movement for a panel of international umpires. "We can't go on forever having problems, something has got to be done about it."

Although Subba Row sees now that one or two players were "hit for six" last week by having to get back on to the field on what amounted to Pakistan's terms, he thinks the instruction the board issued at the time, to restart the match, was the right one . . . "otherwise it would have had a disadvantageous effect far wider than cricket".

Any Government influence in the decision was only "a small part of the mix". The Prime Minister's office had been in touch but that was in order to be briefed ahead of Question Time in the House.

Before meeting senior representatives of the Board of Control for Cricket in Pakistan to discuss problems encountered on the tour, Subba Row's main concern is to see that the last Test match is a proper game, unmarred by the appointment of controversial umpires.

Mickey Stewart said that up to yesterday morning it would have been difficult for the players to "jolt themselves" into the right frame of mind for a Test match. "Obviously the visit of these two," Stewart said, "and the meetings we have had have helped; but there is no chance of the team being in the precise and exact state of mind to play a Test match."

Maybe; but it is high time they left their grievances behind and played cricket for England again, not looking for excuses but going out to win.

The TCCB statement

"The purpose of the meeting was to enable the England team and its management to explain the intense frustration and difficulties experienced during the current tour of Pakistan. It has been apparent that the game of cricket and all it stands for has not been played.

The players expressed their disappointment over those difficulties and regretted that the Board had not fully understood their unique severity. In particular they felt that the Board should have given greater support during the first two Test matches.

The meeting also allowed the Board representatives to communicate the views of the Board eminating from meetings held at Lord's last week, especially in respect of dissent.

Following these exchange of views the Board's representatives confirmed the Board's complete confidence in the team and its management. The captain was given the assurance that he has the full backing of the Board and there is no question of him being replaced.

The Board's represenatives will meet senior officers of the Board of Cricket Control for Pakistan as soon as possible to discuss the problems encountered on the tour. These discussions will include the concept of a panel of international umpires."



Storm before the calm: Gatting and Shakoor in the notorious Test at Faisalabad

END COLUMN

How the French view the affair

From Philip Jacobson
Paris

Now I have seen everything. A whole page in one of France's leading daily newspapers devoted to *"la guerre des umpires"* raging on the cricket fields of Pakistan. And yesterday's edition of *Libération*, the best of the leftish Press, did a remarkably good job of explaining to the French why this *affaire* has so convulsed the Commonwealth that it knocked the Washington summit off some of our pages.

Mind you, *Libé* had fun doing so. *"Le cricket est un sport de gen-tle-men,"* its headline announced solemnly before observing that *"le capitaine de XI Anglais"* had apparently given Shakoor Rana what the French describe as *"un grand merde"*.

Wisely avoiding any attempt to explain the laws of the game (which it assured readers are complicated beyond belief), *Libération* devoted considerable space to examining the supreme importance of fair play in this most Anglo-Saxon of sports. The perceptive analysis of cricket's role in cementing British rule in the old Empire and holding together today's Commonwealth could have come straight from MCC. "For more than a century London has been exporting a certain image of itself: tolerance, good manners, fairness."

Exporting stiff upper lips

But most important, observed the writer, Pierre Grandsmann, the British exported one quality respected above all others — restraining oneself no matter how trying the circumstances (in other words, the stiff upper lip). A quotation from an editorial in *The Times* followed, every bit as sonorous in French as in the original version.

True to its leanings, *Libération* also took the opportunity to examine the larger sociological aspects of the row. Gatting's conduct, it maintained, had drawn such stern criticism partly because his origins are modest and he is just a vulgar professional "player". Even in Mrs Thatcher's meritocracy, the article seemed to be arguing, there were limits to a young fellow's prospects of self-advancement.

By now, one imagines, French readers who had stuck with the story were hooked and there was plenty more to keep them happy. Enter Imran Khan, *"l'idole de 75 millions de Pakistanais"*. As *Libération* viewed it, conceivably correctly, a Pakistan-India World Cup final in Bombay would have amounted to "the revenge of the old subjects of the Raj against their former masters". In the event, although the paper's geography strays somewhat, the English were still able to give "King Imran a cricket lesson in his own kingdom".

Any number of similarly delectable phrases could be encountered in *Libération's* enterprising coverage. This affair is no *"tempête dans une tasse de thé"*, the French were assured: for the English, cricket, "like war", is a continuation of politics by other means.

Obsessed by the foe's obsession

In the circumstances, what were readers to make of the information that, despite the game's superficial lack of urgency, a cricket ball travels at 150 kilometres an hour towards a batsman only 20.12 metres away?

For the further cricketing education of the French, the article made the point that most umpires are *"des gentlemen très âgés"* who had to stand up for six hours, sometimes under *"un soleil brulant"* and it must surely be the only international sport, *Libération* surmised, in which those in charge of the game come from the home country.

According to my Parisian colleagues, this is by no means the first time *Libération* has manifested a reasonable knowledge of, and an evident admiration for, the ancient enemy's national obsession.

One shudders to think what this might be doing to the newspaper's none-too-healthy circulation but it deserves to be saluted for sheer courage when I tell you that yesterday's issue also contained not one but two pages of philosophical exchanges about the inner symbolism of football between the great Michel Platini and the immensely distinguished French writer, Marguerite Duras, you will surely share this admiration.

Transfer shelved yet again

The transfer of Steve Bruce, the Norwich City captain, to Manchester United was still on ice last night after the deal was hit by a further complication (Ian Ross writes). The clubs agreed on a £800,000 fee late last week, but delayed the exchange of contracts until after City had secured a "suitable replacement".

Although Norwich paid £100,000 yesterday for John O'Neill, the Queen's Park Rangers defender, the club have announced that they wish to sign a second player before allowing Bruce to move to Old Trafford.

Craig Levein, the talented Heart of Midlothian defender, is thought to be the latest target, but the indications are that any attempt to lure him to East Anglia will prove unsuccessful.

Despite the problems, Alex Ferguson, the United manager, remains confident that Bruce will make his debut for his new club against Portsmouth on Saturday.

Bruce commented: "It is all very frustrating. I was delighted when it all appeared to be sorted out on Friday, but now it looks as if I am going to be left in limbo for a couple more days."

Carter may pay price for clandestine deal

By Stuart Jones
Football Correspondent

The position of the president of the Football League is about to be undermined. Philip Carter, who abused his authority by dealing in person and in secret with Robert Maxwell, could at the end of today's meeting of the management committee be left with little alternative but to offer his resignation.

Carter is on trial and so is Maxwell. Ten days ago and with the assistance of David Dein, the vice-chairman of Arsenal, they met privately and agreed that the publisher could purchase Watford as long as he disposed of one of his other clubs, Oxford United.

But the committee had already publicly disapproved of the proposal and taken legal action to block it. It felt that Maxwell, the chairman of Derby County, was in breach of regulation 80, which stipulates that "no one may directly or indirectly control the management or administration of more than one club".

Carter will present the case for his own defence near Manchester Airport and the seven other members of the committee can deliver one of three verdicts. The first and most unlikely is that they will spare the president by giving Maxwell written permission to bend regulation 80.

The second and equally improbable option would be to reiterate their opposition to Maxwell as well as to announce their content of the startling and illegitimate action taken by Carter and Dein. The pair would effectively be forced to take an honourable course out of the dishonourable affair.

The third and most predictable choice is to turn the evidence over to an enlarged jury of 92 by calling for an extraordinary general meeting of the League chairmen. They would then decide whether Maxwell, who is also the major shareholder at Reading, can buy Watford from Elton John.

Other than Dein, Carter can rely on only one ally at today's meeting. That is Ken Bates, but even the Chelsea chairman is thought to have been dismayed by the independent route followed by the president. The reaction of the other five committee members was adequately expressed yesterday by Bill Fox, the chairman of Blackburn Rovers.

"There is no way that I will ratify that agreement," Fox said, in reference to the compromise reached between Carter and Maxwell. "Up until that meeting, the president had handled things quite brilliantly but for him then to go a different way was unbelievable."

Fox, who will be supported by his four colleagues, believes that "the matter should be decided by the clubs because the implications are so far-reaching. Either you abide by the rules or you don't". If there was any doubt about Maxwell's guilt, there would surely seem to be none now.

An admission was raised inadvertently and ironically during his talks with Carter. Even though he states that his interests are centred solely on Derby, Maxwell dictated the destiny of Oxford without apparently consulting his family, who are supposed to be in charge at the Manor Ground. Where lies the power there?

Fox is convinced that the chairmen would prevent him from taking over at Watford as well. But by the time the extraordinary general meeting is arranged, Maxwell could have gained a greater influence over his own fate unless the injunction, which was lifted is reimposed.

The first division clubs, which are each granted one and a half votes, are responsible for more than half of the overall total. Maxwell, who has voluntarily delayed his move to Vicarage Road, could conceivably hold those that belong to Derby, Oxford and Watford.

Play-offs wanted by Wales

Wales are upset that the two second-placed sides with the best records in the three four-nation groups will qualify for the World Cup finals in Italy in 1990.

Wales want play-offs between the three runner-up nations instead of this recent rule change. Alun Evans, the Welsh FA secretary, said: "It is better to decide the qualifiers on the field rather than on a mathematical basis.

"In the last World Cup, the three runners-up and the Oceanic winners played off for two places. This rule change came out of the blue."

Evans said West Germany and The Netherlands had supported the Welsh idea at the draw in Zurich, but he did not expect England (also in a four-team group) would join forces in attempting to sway FIFA, the international body.

● Harry Cavan, president of the Irish Football Association, will chair a meeting in Dublin of representatives of the five countries in group six of the World Cup, including Northern Ireland and the Republic.

David Bowen, the secretary of the IFA, said yesterday that discussions will centre on dates for matches and the Republic had already indicated wanting their games against Northern Ireland to take place next autumn and the spring of 1989.

Bowen is satisfied with Northern Ireland's draw. "It should be beneficial financially as travelling is minimal.

Sports Council to look at racism

by John Goodbody

The Sports Council yesterday announced an investigation into racism in British sport. Its officers are to prepare a paper in consultation with the Commision for Racial Equality which will be considered next year.

In its annual report, John Smith, the chairman of the council and also of Liverpool Football Club, states: "Racial abuse also remained a problem and it is deeply disappointing to note its spread from football into other sports — particularly at a time when so many of our black sportsmen and women are bringing such credit to their sports."

Smith added yesterday: "Integration has not taken place to the degree that we would have hoped. We want complete abolition of this tendency."

Charles Donington, an official of the council added: "We want to see where the governing bodies have an equal opportunities policy. We are not saying there is necessarily a problem but we are finding out if there are any barriers to participation or employment.

"We also want to see if there should be a further and longer study to find out exactly what is going on in all areas."

Smith spoke of the successful part John Barnes, the England international, had played in Liverpool's leadership of the first division. And Merseyside, he noted, had had few black players over the years. "But now kids are not only looking for Kenny Dalglish but also John Barnes.

The racial chanting at football matches has been one evident sign of racism in recent years but there have also been problems in cricket. The investigation may also look at the sharp imbalance in officialdom. Whereas blacks are often outstanding in many sports, there are still far too few who are either officials or coaches.

On the question of competitive tendering of local authority services in sport centres, John Wheatley, the council Director General, said: "Wherever I have been in the country I have found a welcome to the opportunity to put some services out to competitive tendering. What is important is that local authorities should keep control of the policy of the centres."

He stressed that any competitive tendering must not result in a reduction of the service to the community. "The view of local authorities is identical to ours. The idea is to target the subsidy of the local authority to those areas which are in need."

The council confirmed that all facilities would be withdrawn from the World Professional Billiard and Snooker Association because the association was not following the council code of conduct on prohibiting the use of beta-blockers.

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Violent attacks on referees by juniors

By Dennis Shaw

The number of physical assaults on referees by players in junior football is increasing to the extent that recruitment is being adversely affected. A potentially alarming situation is crystallized by figures from the Birmingham County FA which show that there have already been 18 attacks on referees this season.

This compares with 24 in the whole of last season, when the figures had increased on the previous 12 months. "One referee ended up in hospital as a result of a head-butting offence," the Birmingham County FA secretary, Mike Pennick, said.

"Whilst it must not be taken out of context, bearing in mind the increasing number of matches, it is nevertheless a disturbing trend which reflects the decrease in respect for authority."

Many young people, some only 14 years of age, are quickly abandoning their intentions of becoming referees after experiencing verbal and physical abuse either from players or spectators. "The number of assaults is three times up on this stage last year," Pennick said.

'Young people can start off with great enthusiasm to become referees but quickly lose heart when they realise how respect for authority has diminished. One bizarre "benefit" from the worrying trend is that Birmingham's income from fines goes up each year.

This Midland experience is reflected throughout the FA regions, again explained partly by an increase in teams playing. At Lancaster Gate, figures have just been collated from last season and they show that 240 physical attacks on referees took place. This is an increase of nearly 100 in five years.

"We view it very seriously," the FA's appointments secretary, Reg Paine, said. "We now have 41,000 clubs so an increase must be taken in this context but there is little doubt that the minority fringe are causing a wastage in the number of referees.

"Verbal and physical abuse is bound to make new referees become disenchanted and pack up." Various county associations will be tackling the trend, which culminates in the more widely publicized incidents in first-class games each week in their own way.

The Birmingham County FA Disciplinary Committee will consider a system of fining clubs for the misbehaviour of its players similar to the system at the top.

SPORT IN BRIEF

Long jump to stand

Rome (Reuter) — The International Amateur Athletic Federation (IAAF) ruled yesterday that the controversial result of the men's long jump at the world championships in Rome was correct and that the Italian, Giovanni Evangelisti, should keep the bronze medal he won in September with a jump of 8.38m.

Italian television subsequently appeared to show that Evangelisti's jump was about 58cm under the official result and that Larry Myricks, of the United States, should have taken the bronze. The Italian athletics coach, Alessandro Donati, alleged in a statement to police that the result had been deliberately fixed in the Italian's favour, though this was strongly denied. The IAAF concluded that television and computer projections after the event were "technically unreliable".

Snow ballet

Freestyle skiing makes its debut as a demonstration sport during the 1988 Winter Olympics at Calgary and Britain will be represented by Julia Snell and Robin Wallace, of Hampshire. Snell took tenth place overall in the combined marks for the first ballet competition at Tignes, France, but was behind Jilly Curry, of Surrey, who took fourth place overall.

Witt: retained domestic title

Cold comfort

East Berlin (Reuter) — Katerina Witt, the Olympic, World and European figure skating champion, won her eighth successive East German national title at the weekend despite suffering from a heavy cold. Witt, aged 22, from Karl-Marx-Stadt, performed the free-skating program to the music of Bizet's *Carmen*, gaining maximum marks from three judges.

In the Hunt

Rachel Hunt, the only three-day event rider to win gold medals at junior, young rider and senior levels, is to be sponsored for a further two years by the MacConnal-Mason Gallery. The contract, worth around £60,000, will enable Miss Hunt to concentrate on her build-up to the Olympic Games.

Bombay mix

Bombay (Reuter) — Indian cricket officials will meet next week to decide whether a one-day match against West Indies in Calcutta on January 2 should be part of the official limited-over series. The West Indies manager, Jackie Hendricks, has stated that the match is an unofficial, fund-raising effort.

Swift climb

Ronan Rafferty, who won the New Zealand open at the weekend, has jumped to 58th place in the Sony world rankings. Rafferty is now ranked higher than the European Ryder Cup players, Ken Brown and José Rivero. Greg Norman, of Australia, still leads the table.

Team effort

West Palm Beach (Reuter) — Bob Tway and Mike Hulbert, of the United States, won the PGA team championship by one stroke from their fellow-Americans, Fred Couples and Mike Donald, on Sunday. Tway and Hulbert shot a six-under-par 66 for a 38-under-par total of 250.

Side swipe

The attempt by Steve Webster and Tony Hewitt, of Britain, to retain their world Grand Prix sidecar title next year is under threat due to lack of sponsorship.